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Vol. 54, No. 11 Whole Number 443

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THE CRISIS *was founded in* 1910 *and is the official organ of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. It is published monthly at* 20 *West* 40*th Street, New York* 18, *N. Y., by the Crisis Publishing Co., Inc., Dr. Louis T. Wright, president; Walter White, secretary; and Mrs. Lillian A. Alexander, treasurer. The subscription price is* $1.50 *a year or* 15 *cents a copy. Foreign subscriptions* $1.75. *The date of expiration of each subscription is printed on the wrapper. When the subscription is due a blue renewal blank is enclosed. The address of a subscription may be changed as often as desired, but both the old and new address must be given and three weeks' notice is necessary. Manuscripts and drawings relating to colored people are desired. They must be accompanied by return postage, and while* THE CRISIS *uses every care, it assumes no responsibility for their safety in transit. Entered as second class matter November* 2, 1910, *at the post office at New York, N. Y. under the act of March* 3, 1879.

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EDITORIAL ROUNDUP

CLAUDE ("BUDDY") YOUNG (Cover), former U. of Illinois star, now plays halfback on the New York Yankees, a professional team.

•

We received several letters rebuking Dr. McMillan for his piece in our August number criticising Negro higher education. One correspondent complained bitterly that Dr. McMillan's lampoon had done the Negro college a great disservice. Another correspondent, A. A. MEDVED ("look at the Record," page 330), put his remonstrances into an article. As a member of the department of schools, colleges, and seminaries of the Board of Education of the Northern Baptist Convention, Mr. Medved is eminently qualified by experience to write on Negro higher education.

•

Nothing is more hazardous these days than the launching of a new business enterprise. That is why G. WILLIAM MCKINNEY ("A Pioneering Business," page 332) feels that the story of the Broadway Federal Savings and Loan Association should be a stimulus to others. Mr. McKinney is a graduate of Howard and the University of Pittsburgh and served as the Adjutant General of the 93rd Infantry Division during the War. He is now public relations director of the BFSLA.

•

Arthur Hopkins once told Ethel Barrymore to stay until the last act of *Deep River* (then trying out in Philadelphia) just to watch Rose McClendon come down the stairs. "She can teach our most hoity-toity actresses distinction," he explained. Miss Barrymore's retort was: "She can teach them *all* distinction."

•

What Miss McClendon and other actors have meant to the Negro in the American theatre is charmingly set forth in Edith J. R. Isaacs' *The Negro in the American Theatre*, reviewed by JOHN LOVELL, JR. (Negro Drama: Double Take," page 334). Dr. Lovell has been teaching English at Howard since 1930. Beginning with this coming January, he will spend the entire quarter lecturing at West Coast colleges under the auspices of the American Friends Service Committee.

•

Photographs illustrating the article-review are used through the courtesy of Mr. Carl Van Vechten and Mr. Robert M. MacGregor of *Theatre Arts*.

•

If Dr. Wendell M. Stanley can change the heredity of a virus, it is time for man to take a second look at his forty-eight chromosomes. MURRAY KLUTCH, a free-lance writer of Chicago, toys fictionally with the idea ("Chromosome Number Fifty-Seven," page 337) that radiations from the atom bomb could change "Nordics" into "Negroids."

•

The reviews of *Behold a Cry* and *Democracy's Negroes* (page 347) are by ARTHUR E. BURKE, a professor of English at Hampton Institute, Virginia.

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College and School News

HOWARD UNIVERSITY opened September 24 with a record enrollment of 1,100 freshmen, the largest freshman class in the history of the university. James M. Nabrit, Jr., university secretary, predicts that the total enrollment for the year will probably exceed 7,000 students.

Applications for the various professional schools vastly exceed present facilities: the medical school, which can accommodate only 70 students in its freshman class had 1,250 applicants; the school of pharmacy, which can accept 50, had more than 700; and the school of dentistry, which can accept only 50, had 500.

Fifty-three new teachers have been added to the various faculties of the university.

A survey of the segregated school systems in seventeen states and the District of Columbia has been completed by the Bureau of Educational Research of the university. Published in the summer, 1947, yearbook-number of the *Journal of Negro Education*, the findings show that in no separate school system does the Negro receive educational opportunity equal to that of white students in the same community. The most notable progress has been in length of school terms and increase in teacher-salaries in the common schools.

The annual award of the Catholic Committee of the South for 1947 went to Dr. Guy B. Johnson, a member of the Howard board of trustees. Dr. Johnson is a research professor of social science at the University of North Carolina and an expert on race relations and Negro culture for the Southern Regional Council.

VIRGINIA UNION UNIVERSITY opened September 15 with a large freshman enrollment and twenty-one additions to its staff. Theresita N. Braxton, who has been on leave studying at the University of Chicago since February, 1947, returns with her master's degree in educational administration to resume her duties as college registrar. Dr. Barco, vice-president and teacher, has been named dean of the school of religion for the year 1947-48.

Mary E. Johnson, after a summer at Middlebury, is continuing her studies at the Sorbonne, Paris, France; Clinton F. Oliver, head of the division of languages and literature, is completing work on his doctorate at Harvard; Nathan L. Scott, dean of the chapel, is studying at Union Theological Seminary; and Vernell McCarroll is studying

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at Columbia. Dr. Limas D. Wall, director of the division of science, has been elected as a research fellow for 1947-48 by the Research Committee of the Meharry Biological Research Fund.

President Richard I. McKinney announces the appointment of nine new teachers and staff members at STORER COLLEGE. The school opened on September 10 with a large freshman enrollment.

MORGAN STATE COLLEGE announces the following appointments to its teaching staff for the fall term: Dr. Irene Diggs, associate professor of sociology; Dr. Cleveland Franks, professor of chemistry; Thomas P. Fraser, associate professor of biology; Norvell Hunter, assistant professor of biology; Ruth A. Matthews, instructor in English; Idel W. Taylor, assistant professor of psychology and philosophy; Mrs. Marian P. Wall, assistant professor of English; and Mrs. Lydia W. Mussenden, assistant professor of home economics.

At WEST VIRGINIA STATE COLLEGE the fall term began on September 15 with a record-breaking enrollment of 1,500 students, and twenty-one new teachers on the staff.

Dr. Herman G. Canady, head of the department of psychology, took an active part in the 55th annual convention of the American Psychological Association which met in Detroit in September.

Sixty-fifth year at VIRGINIA STATE COLLEGE began on September 16 with an enrollment of 1,400 resident-students and thirty-two new staff members. Formal opening of the college, however, was held September 26, with Dr. R. B. Atwood, president of Kentucky State, as principal speaker. Seven members of the staff have returned from leaves of absence: Mrs. Florence B. Davis, from Columbia; Elizabeth Durham, Pennsylvania State; Albert T. Harris, Michigan; Joseph H. Jenkins, Minnesota; Adolphus J. Miller, Michigan State; John V. Parnell, Harvard; and Randa D. Russell, Michigan.

Despite limited housing facilities, LINCOLN UNIVERSITY (Mo.) reports a capacity enrollment in its college of arts and sciences as well as in all other divisions of the university.

President Scruggs announces sixteen new faculty and staff appointments for the year and four promotions: Armstead Pride, professor and dean of the school of journalism; Joseph Johnson, assistant professor in economics and business administration; Harry Johnson, assistant professor, mechanic arts; and Marcheata Bush, instructor, department of English.

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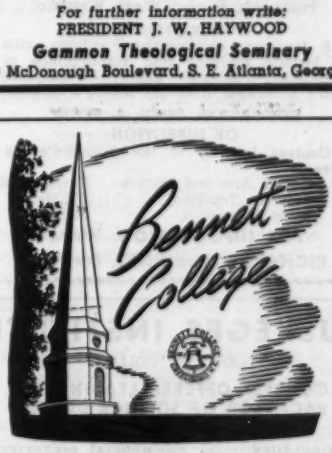

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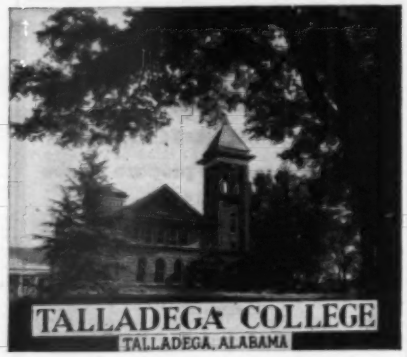

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Second winner of the Robert S. Abbott Memorial Scholarship in Journalism, $400, is Lela Nuna Knox, a junior in the school of journalism.

A sociologist from Cambridge, England; an anthropologist from Calcutta, India; the director of social research in the University of Hawaii; and an editor of elementary school books for a Boston publisher are among the sixteen new appointments to the faculty and staff of FISK UNIVERSITY according to an announcement by President Charles S. Johnson.

The George Gershwin Memorial Collection Endowment Fund at the university has been started with the gift of $1000. This contribution, which wins an equal sum for the general endowment from the General Education Board, was made by Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Rieser, Ravinia, Ill.; Mr. and Mrs. Morton L. Wallerstein, Richmond, Va.; and Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Blumenthal, Elkins Park, Va. The income from this fund will be used to maintain and expand the George Gershwin Memorial Collection of Music and Musical Literature founded at Fisk by Mr. Carl Van Vechten of New York City.

The inauguration of Dr. Charles Spurgeon Johnson as the sixth president of Fisk was held on November 7 and climaxed by a four-day inaugural program featuring the appearance of many notables who held seminars on education and public affairs.

Julian Winston, who has been active in campus music and forensic activities, has been elected president pro tem of the WILLIAM PENN COLLEGE community council at Oskaloosa, Iowa.

Mrs. Mamie P. Thomas, 1946 graduate of the ATLANTA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK, has just been appointed visiting teacher with the Atlanta public school system.

Funeral services for the late **Dr. John Manuel Gandy,** president emeritus of Virginia State College were held October 5. Born in Starkville, Miss., seventy-eight years ago, Dr. Gandy attended Jackson College and received his degrees from Fisk. A Harmon Award winner of 1929, Dr. Gandy first came to the college in 1898 as an instructor. Sixteen years later he became Virginia State's third president; and in 1924 he became president-emeritus of the college.

Dr. James E. Shepard, founder and president of the North Carolina College for Negroes died in Durham on October 6. Born in Raleigh, N. C., seventy-two years ago, Dr. Shepard was educated at Shaw and Muskingum college, Ohio. In 1910, Dr. Shepard, then pastor of the White Rock Baptist

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church in Durham, founded the National Religious Training School and Chautauqua, which became successively the Durham State Normal School and the North Carolina College for Negroes.

Three outstanding educators will teach and lecture at schools and colleges in the East, Ohio, and on the West Coast during the next school term under the auspices of the AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE in an effort to increase interracial respect and understanding. The 1947-48 lecturers are Dr. Richard I. McKinney, president of Storer college, whose field is religion and philosophy; Dr. John B. Lovell, Jr., associate professor of English at Howard, whose field is Walt Whitman and the American drama; and Allan R. Freelon, artist, who is special assistant to the director of fine arts, School District of Philadelphia.

Sixtieth annual session of ALABAMA STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE opened on September 10 with 1,200 students, fifteen additions to the faculty, and a half million dollars worth of construction in progress.

Writing in a recent issue of the *Southwest Review*, published by SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY, David Botter, a southern newspaper man, takes the South to task for inaction on racial and labor problems. On the surface, he says, things are better; but underneath he sees suspicion, fear, and frustration.

According to a recent announcement by Dr. R. W. Brown, director, THE GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER FOUNDATION has recently awarded eleven young people graduate research assistantships and fellowships for study in chemistry at Tuskegee during 1947-48.

The first of a new type of weekly Monday assemblies at ALCORN COLLEGE was held September 28. In this new type assembly one student a week is selected at random to make a short talk to the assembled students.

WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY awarded the degree of Ph.D. in English to Lena Beatrice Morton in February, 1947.

DELAWARE STATE COLLEGE opened its fall term on September 22 with a large student enrollment. Many veterans are enrolled and they are now occupying the new veterans' facilities erected on the campus during the summer.

President Benjamin E. Mays announces seven new faculty appointments at MOREHOUSE COLLEGE. Among the appointments is that of Paul M.

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MARGARET BUSH, Registrar

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM *of the Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society at Tuskegee Institute, 1947, was addressed by Hollis F. Price, president of LeMoyne college. Pictured here are members of Beta Tau Upsilon chapter.*

Richiez to the French faculty. During 1944-45, Mr. Richiez was an exchange student at Atlanta from Haiti.

Dr. J. Max Bond, who since 1944 has been a special representative of the Inter-American Educational Foundation in Haiti, has been appointed director of the ATLANTA UNIVERSITY school of education. The school also announces five appointments to the university library.

At the annual meeting of the MARINE BIOLOGICAL LABORATORY CORPORATION of Woods Hole, Mass., Dean S. Milton Nabrit was elected a life member of the body, which is composed of 440 noted biologists throughout the country. Dean Nabrit is the second Negro to be so honored, the first being the late Dr. Ernest E. Just.

BENNETT COLLEGE announces the addition of $662,600 to its capital account. Of this sum, $412,500 came from the residuary estate of the late Mrs. Annie Merner Pfeiffer. According to President Jones, total gifts of the Pfeiffer family to the school now total $1,132,500.

The college, in response to the increased interest in clothing on its campus, has formally opened its new clothing department.

The 1947 sessions of the CONFERENCE ON SCIENCE, PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION were held September 8-10 in Philadelphia, Pa. One hundred scholars, drawn from every area of academic life, met and examined every important method known to the sciences in an effort to eliminate danger spots in international peace.

WILBERFORCE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND INDUSTRIAL ARTS has been re-certified and approved by the Ohio state department of education as a college training institution for veterans.

President Wesley has announced twenty additions to the faculty and eleven faculty promotions. Among the new staff appointments is that of Georges Joseph-Henri of Talence, France, as associate professor of foreign languages. Mr. Joseph-Henri was born in Martinique but got his secondary education in France and did university work at the Sorbonne.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY SEEKS NEGRO TEACHERS

The president of Boston University in a recent interview states that his university will consider favorably applications for teaching positions by competent and well-qualified Negroes "in accordance with established university policy." He also states that one of the reasons for the disproportionate representation of Negroes on his faculty is due to the dearth of applications from that group. With the increase in the number of students and the resultant need for an expanded staff, there will be vacancies for which Negro applicants may apply.

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Editorials

TEST FOR COVENANTS

ABOUT thirty years ago the United States Supreme Court ruled that muncipical ordinances marking out districts where Negroes could and could not live were unconstitutional.

To take the place of these ordinances, groups of homeowners began drawing up and recording in legal fashion agreements between the signatories not to sell property in their areas to Negroes. Later Jews were included and also—in a frantic scramble—Orientals (with such specific designations as Malayans, Polynesians, and Filipinos in addition to Chinese and Japanese).

The covenants are of several kinds and a full discussion of them is more suited to a law journal. Sufficient to say that the owner-and-occupancy type has come to the ridiculous state where in Michigan a white woman married to a colored man was ordered by a court not to permit him even to *visit* their home which was restricted against Negroes; in California a white man married to a Chinese woman had their home taken from them; and in a suburb of the nation's capital neighbors started suit to force a gentile woman married to a Jewish man to dispossess her husband from the premises.

In 1926 the U. S. Supreme Court refused to hear a case, *Buckley v. Corrigan,* arising in the District of Columbia. This failure to hear and decide the Corrigan case has been interpreted by various lower courts through the years as a sort of left-hand endorsement of restrictive covenants, and their validity has been upheld with dismaying regularity.

But this year the highest court has agreed to hear argument in four restrictive covenant cases, one each from Detroit, Mich., and St. Louis, Mo., and two from Washington, D. C. The arguments are scheduled for the week of December 8. Since the problem of acquiring a decent home in a decent neighborhood is particularly acute for Negroes (more so than for other minorities) the opinion of the highest court will be awaited with the greatest interest.

The restrictive covenant is not the only obstacle faced by Negroes who have the desire and the money to purchase homes away from warehouses and railroad tracks and undesirable small manufacturing areas in our urban centers, but if the Supreme Court should rule against the covenants, the colored people then could address themselves to the powerful combination of real-estate-boards-bank-loan associations which constitute the Goliath in their path away from the ghetto evils of overcrowding, exploitation, crime, disease and death.

FEPC THE YARDSTICK

THE attitude of Republicans and Democrats to fair employment practice legislation will determine in considerable degree the attitude of Negro voters toward candidates in the election next November.

A bill (S. 984) was in the first session of the 80th Congress sponsored by Senators Irving M. Ives (R., N. Y.) and Dennis Chavez (D., N. M.) and other Republicans and Democrats. But the Senate Labor and Public Welfare Committee, of which Senator Robert A. Taft is chairman, failed to report the bill out favorably, choosing instead to hold it up "for further study." Hearings had been held by a subcommittee in June and held open until well into July in order to give opponents of the bill (mostly from Mississippi) a chance to testify.

Despite all this, it was revealed in mid-October that Senator Taft's committee had invited Donald Richberg, a lawyer and one-time director of NRA, to submit a brief on the bill. Mr. Richberg's brief called the bill "detestable," unconstitutional, and favorable to the success of Communism in the United States.

Twenty-two of the 28 pages of Mr. Richberg's brief are largely in legal language and full of citations allegedly indicating the unconstitutionality of the proposed legislation. This section can best be answered by the legal experts of the National Council for a Permanent FEPC. But the last pages, headed "General Conclusions," are devoted to smearing the bill as an instrument of Communism. In making this argument Richberg joins Rep. John Rankin of Mississippi, admittedly one of the most vicious, unreasoning and prejudiced foes of the aspirations of Negro Americans.

Is Senator Taft's committee trying to torpedo S. 984, a bill "to prohibit discrimination in employment because of race, religion, color, national origin or ancestory?" Why, after holding hearings and delaying them over a period of two months to give dallying opponents a chance to testify, was Richberg invited to submit this brief?

Did the Taft committee hold over the bill for "further study"in order to kill the legislation during the recess with the smear of Communism from Donald Richberg? Is the FEPC argument so just, so logical, so American, that the Taft committee and the Republican leadership felt that only a "Red" slander could kill it?

Senator Taft and the Republicans will have to do better than that. They and the Democrats who may be looking for a chance to duck out on this bill should know that as far as Negro voters are concerned, FEPC will be the test of candidates and parties in 1948.

CATHOLICS OUT IN FRONT

BY their forthright action in St. Louis, Mo., where Archbishop Ritter ordered hitherto "white" Catholic elementary and high schools opened to Negro Catholic children, the Catholics have stepped out in front again in the battle against inequality and separation based upon race and color.

Archbishop Ritter stood fast in the face of threats of some white parishioners to appeal to the Vatican, and, after several mass meetings and a deal of letter writing, the opposition dissolved. It is estimated that only about 100 Negro students are involved. With this step, Negro Catholic children in St. Louis (which has segregated public schools) may now be educated in church schools along with white Catholic children, from the nursery school through St. Louis University. This latter institution was opened to Negro students about two years ago.

This is religious social action which has meaning, and its significance has not been lost upon Negro citizens of every faith, and of no faith.

PROGRESS BACKWARD

WHILE the Catholics in St. Louis, a Middle Western city with a "southern exposure," were instituting a policy abolishing segregation of children of Catholic faith in Catholic schools, certain citizens of White Plains, N. Y., a town 30 minutes north of New York City, were announcing their intention to build a segregated YMCA for Negro boys and men. The Missouri Catholics are going forward with all their children proud and unstigmatized under the banner of the Roman church. The White Plain Protestants are going backward, with their Negro Christians carefully separated from their white Christians (?).

Look at the Record

By A. A. Medved

Dr. McMillan wrote critically in our August issue of the Negro college. In this article an official of a northern educational board supporting Negro higher education tells why he thinks many of the reproaches unjust

ALONG the farthest edge of the long, green panels of lawn which extended from the ante-bellum manor houses of Tidewater Virginia estates, a "ha-ha" was often in evidence. It was a sort of trench, the inner side of which was perpendicular and faced with a wall; the outer side being sloped and turfed, permitting the cattle to appear on the landscape, yet keeping them at a safe distance from the mansion.

The American reader so often dwells behind a kind of "ha-ha". I have become conscious of my own guilt. Problems of moment and controversial issues are paraded before us in print. We read, are interested, often aroused, but we permit them to pass by without much more than cursory comment. From time to time an article appears which, whatever the intent of its author, perpetrates gross injustice. Insulated by many factors, and thus isolated in a sense, we abide in the security of silence. The reading public, accustomed to more or less sporadic samplings of this and that, carries away with it false impressions which neither retractions nor replies ever fully erase. The chance that the reader of the original article will read the reply is regarded as only "fair". Too often that reply receives less prominence and considerably less space, if, indeed, it is not restricted to a "letter to the Editor".

In the thirty-sixth annual educational number of *The Crisis* (August 1947) an article appeared on "The American Negro in American Higher Education", under the authorship of Lewis K. McMillan. The grossly unjust accusations which were therein leveled at the colleges for Negroes in this country merit more than a passing nod of acknowledgment. I cannot agree that no good purpose would be served in replying to it; that answering it would only serve to publicize it.

The author, in his not very laudable resort to "peglerism" introduces and concludes his tirade with a substantially sound analysis and report of conditions in American higher education generally. It approximates the stunt of the boy who secreted within the more respectable covers of a history book the pulp pages of a highly questionable and taboo magazine. Thus, buttressed by educational respectability, the author peddles his vile yellow-journalism. It is a direct blow below the belt for a large majority of the colleges for Negroes.

Individuals Vilified

In order to give his judgments the ring of authenticity the author of the article in question resorts to vilification of individuals the use of whose names gives his writing an attention which it would not obtain on its own merits. Needless to say, his attacks are nothing short of libelous. Let us take the case of the dean of the college of education at Ohio State university, Arthur J. Klein, whom Mr. McMillan cites as a star example of one liberal northern white college administrator "who was converted from the position of a strong advocate of 'mixed' schools and colleges to that of a bitter opponent to the presence of Negroes in the white colleges". Dean Klein's own words label this charge as "utterly untruthful", and he goes on to state further in writing to me that he has "never written anything that could be interpreted by the wildest stretch of the imagination to mean that I oppose 'the presence of Negroes in white colleges'—quite the contrary. Nor have I, in public address or private conversation, ever made statements which could be interpreted to mean that—it would be contrary to my deepest convictions."

Dean Klein's personal and official actions at Ohio State and elsewhere all contradict such charges. Verification of Dr. Klein's position in this matter would have been relatively easy for Mr. McMillan to ascertain, had he been disposed to deal with facts, by reference to both the friends and opponents of Negroes at Ohio State. Mr. McMillan's choice of slandering one with such an unassailable record would itself brand him as being irresponsible in his utterances.

The educational standards of northern white colleges to which he accords, and again unfoundedly, general excellence, he holds up as both model and yardstick for the Negro colleges. It is interesting to look at a few facts. I know of no Negro colleges which offer work leading to the Ph.D. degree. Those Ph.D. degrees which Mr. McMillan accuses Negroes of coming by via a "racket" have on the whole been earned in the very best of the northern white universities. "It has been an extremely rare occurence during the past ten or fifteen years for a person to be elected as president of a Negro college who did not possess at least a master's degree, two or more years of graduate work, and in many instances the doctor's degree. Of the fully accredited four-year colleges, almost half (48.7 per cent) of the presidents of these institutions have an earned doctor's degree, and one third (33.3 per cent) have a master's degree or more than one or two years of graduate work beyond the master's degree—making a total of four-fifths (82 per cent) possessing training at the master's level or beyond".[1] Corresponding data are given regarding deans in 60 Negro liberal arts colleges: "doctor's degree 28.6 per cent; master's degree plus, 66 per cent; total with master's degree and beyond 94.6 per cent".[2]

If any "racket" is involved in the securing of such degrees and in the numbers indicated above, then the northern white colleges granting them might well be charged with conspiracy, or at least collusion. Proving either charge would,

I am afraid, seriously tax even Mr. McMillan's research methods.

That Mr. McMillan could find single instances in which one or more of his charges against Negro colleges are warranted, I have no doubt. I could probably add to his list. To imply, however, as he does, that what he presents is a general picture is, as are his charges against individuals in his article, nothing short of fantastic. I might add that for every Negro college in which he could show such conditions prevailing, I could show him several white colleges, both north and south, in which the same would be true, even in like degree.

Mr. McMillan's sweeping generalizations are sadly lacking in the scholarly methods which one might expect from one of his training and teaching experience in the field of history. He shows a complete disregard for historical perspective in his evaluation of the present status of the Negro college and the examples which he employs are completely alien to their historical context.

Improvement Needed

I would be among the first to grant that much improvement is needed in the Negro colleges in the areas on which Mr. McMillan touches, but the same would be true, I am certain, in more than an equal number of white colleges. The ailments which he sets forth are those of American higher education as a whole and not anything peculiar to the schools of his race.

If many of the northern white colleges had to contend with the deplorably inadequate preparation with which students come, and with which many Negro colleges must contend, or to insulate themselves from what may be their greatest service to the race and to the nation, I am not sure that they would do as well. Much of the present leadership of the Negro race in America today has come along that difficult road, and had Negro colleges not met the challenge as admirably as they have done, such leadership would have been lost not only to the race but to the nation.

I challenge Mr. McMillan to point out anywhere in the world where in so few generations, a people has made such long strides and with such admirable results as has the Negro in America. American Negroes have a right to be proud of their schools of higher learning despite any comparison with the best in American white higher educaton, despite some of the glaring inadequacies in certain single instances. Taken as a whole, Mr. McMillan's conclusions, regarding Negro higher education, are as false as are his methods, and perhaps his purpose for arriving at them. Taken as a group, the Negro colleges, even without consideration of the handicaps under which they have labored and still labor, in my experience at least, stand up with the best on comparable levels.

To say that the Negro college is more interested in and fond of "academic names, but it has a strange abhorrence of new ideas and new procedures" is to say what has been frequently said by educators of note regarding white higher education exclusively. Mr. McMillan's statement, false as it may be as a generalization, is new only in being applied to Negro colleges. The experience of a number of us has been that the Negro college, given an opportunity such as that open to most white colleges, shows considerably less inhibition to new approaches and realistic applications of old ones than he is willing either to admit or has knowledge of. I suspect that there is considerably more hope of a realistic harnessing of higher education to the practical needs of American democracy emerging in the Negro college than is in evidence elsewhere. Its present handicap may well be its hope. Its brief history does not impose upon it the comfortable rut of tradition. The real history of the Negro college is yet to be written, although already begun. Educators across the country see in it a high hope.

There is no doubt that jim-crowism is a blight on the life of our democracy, but to call Negro colleges located in the north "jim-crow" simply because they are located there, is truly to strain the ductile qualities of human sensitivity. In an area in which white schools are open to Negro enrolment it is still the privilege of Negroes to select schools solely enrolling members of their own race. That such preference exists I have little doubt. The type of logic which enables Mr. McMillan to arrive at such a conclusion, if applied to the jim-crow areas of the country, would mean that every Negro who submits to jim-crow practices in any form thereby aids and abets the practice of it. It is true theoretically, yes, but isn't it a good example of straining the gnat and swallowing the camel?

There is a long row ahead of us to plow if the grave injusfices in American interracial areas are to be turned under so that democracy may more surely take its rootage and yield in terms of the fuller abundance of its promise, but there is little wisdom in flogging the horse. That is not to say that there isn't a real urgency for action and achievement—there is. No opportunity must be lost, no possibility failed to be seized upon to throw off, to outlive a national disgrace. The task is great, but so also is the hope and the possibility, and it will be done.

Data refuting the general charges made by Mr. McMillan, which should certainly be known to one who purports to speak authoritatively on this subject, may be found in abundance in the "National Survey of the Higher Education of Negroes"[3] and in the April 1946 issue of *The Journal of Educational Sociology*[4] which is devoted entirely to "The Negro College—its Place in Democracy". Indeed, so completely do the areas against which Mr. McMillan makes his charges conform to the separate articles in this issue, that one is prompted to the conjecture that a deliberate attempt was made to pervert and ignore the facts set forth therein.

Certainly no gain is made in unfounded, brash and brazen assaults upon institutions and individuals that play so large a part in providing for the race and the nation the courageous and far-seeing leadership which is so vital to the ultimate solution of America's Number One problem. Certainly Mr. McMillan contributes not one iota to the achievement of the ends which purport to motivate his writing as he does. On the contrary, his vulgar display of his own pettiness only adds to the store of untypical exaggerations so handily employed by the peddlers of prejudice.

No doubt Mr. McMillan's alchemic methods of research and logic will enable him now to place me along with others whom he lists as converted to racial bias. I have been duly warned against it. Nevertheless, I felt a compulsion to reply since I do have a fairly broad firsthand acquaintance with the worst as well as the best in Negro college education and, at the same time, I can speak as one who is not a member of the race and, therefore, (according to Mr. McMillan's reasoning) inclined to see the situation in darker than the actual hues.

"We have tomorrow
Bright before us
Life, a flame.
Yesterday
A night-gone thing,
A sun-down name.
And dawn today
Broad arch above
the road we
came."

REFERENCES

1. Charles H. Thompson, "Control and Administration of the Negro College," p. 490f., in the *Journal of Educational Sociology*, April 1946.
2. *Ibid.*, footnote, p. 491 quoting Dr. Mathew J. Whitehead: "Negro Liberal Arts College Deans."
3. U. S. Office of Education, Washington, D. C. 1942 Four volumes (esp. Vol. II and III).
4. Volume 19, No. 8. April 1946.

A Pioneering Business

By G. William McKinney

Story of the Broadway Federal Savings and Loan Association of Los Angeles, California

THE Broadway Federal Savings and Loan Association was organized in 1946 by a group of civic minded business and professional leaders of Los Angeles, California, who realized the urgent need for such an institution in this rapidly expanding western metropolis whose colored population had increased from 63,774 in 1940 to 130,084 in 1946 or 108 per cent. The acute housing shortage, inability of potential Negro investors in real estate to obtain fair and equitable loans for the purchase of homes, and other problems of a growing community inspired the organizers with a firm determination to establish this business to help meet the needs of their people. The business of the many banking institutions in the densely populated colored areas had tripled and showed a tremendous increase in volume of savings accounts, amounting to millions of dollars, drawn from the earnings of Negro residents. However, none of these financial concerns employed a Negro in any clerical or administrative capacity and offered no opportunity for the children of the hundreds of colored depositors to aspire to employment in the banking field.

The organizers had no easy task. They faced the dual problem of trying to obtain the support and confidence of their own group and at the same time to meet the many and difficult requirements of the Federal Home Loan Bank Administration of Washington, D. C. The colored community, because of previous unfortunate experiences with various types of banking enterprises, had to be convinced that this new venture would be all that it purported to be. The Federal Home Bank Administration was likewise skeptical because the establishment of the association was a Negro invasion of a new field and a departure from his traditional business operations.

Nevertheless, on November 25, 1946, a charter was granted by the Federal Home Loan Bank of Washington, D. C., authorizing the operation of the Broadway Federal Savings and Loan Association as one of 1300 similar federal associations in the United States and Hawaii, which is the second to be organized and operated by Negroes. The organizers had met all federal requirements, including an initial capital of $150,000 and 150 subscribers.

H. A. Howard, prominent business, civic, and social leader of Los Angeles, headed the organizing committee and served as the propelling force behind the organizational work. Mr. Howard has been active in the real estate profession in this city for the last twenty-five years and is a keen student of the many social and civic problems of the Negro. His untiring efforts and ability to draw on his business experiences greatly facilitated the work of the committee. Attorney Thomas L. Griffith, Jr., gave the committee able legal advice and assistance. His position as president of the local NAACP had made him acutely aware of the need for a business such as a federal savings and loan association. Mrs. Zella M. Taylor, local businesswoman, served as secretary of the committee. Others who assisted in the organizational work, although not officially members of the committee, were M. Earl Grant, an outstanding rancher of Pasadena; Dr. H. Claude Hudson, prominent dentist and civic leader and former president

Earl Griffin

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS *of the Broadway Federal Savings and Loan Association: Seated, L to R, Dr. H. Claude Hudson, director; Zella M. Taylor, secretary and director; Mildred Wilson, assistant secretary; H. A. Howard, president and general manager and director. Standing, Norman O. Houston, vice-chairman of the board; M. Earl Grant, treasurer and director; Paul R. Williams, vice-president; G. William McKinney, vice-president.*

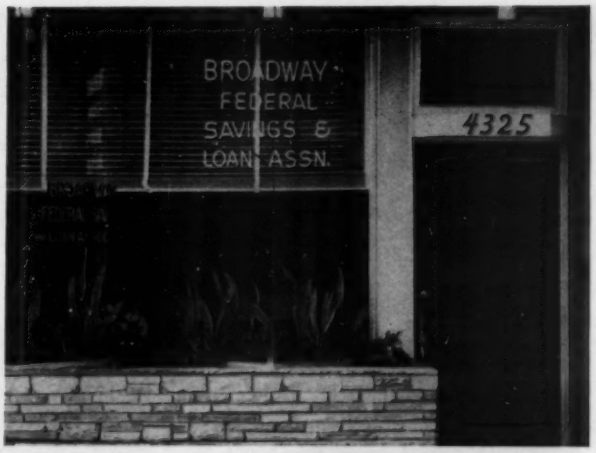
of the local NAACP; Norman O. Houston, president of the Golden State Mutual Life Insurance Company; Albert Maddox, local business man; Mrs. Cynthiabelle G. Smith; and G. William McKinney, former army major and adjutant general of the 93rd Infantry Division.

A special organizational meeting of the charter members of the association was held on December 6, 1946, at Villa Arlington and the following officers and directors were elected: officers, H. A. Howard, president and general manager; G. William McKinney, vice-president; Zella M. Taylor, secretary; M. Earl Grant, treasurer; Mildred P. Wilson, assistant secretary; Albert Maddox, vice-president; Paul R. Williams, vice-president; Cynthiabelle G. Smith, assistant secretary-treasurer; board of directors, Attorney Thomas L. Griffith, Jr., chairman; Norman O. Houston, vice-chairman; Zella M. Taylor, secretary; H. A. Howard, M. Earl Grant, Dr. H. Claude Hudson, Hon. Helen Gahagan Douglas, Cynthiabelle G. Smith, and Albert Maddox. Paul R. Williams was later elected to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mrs. C. G. Smith.

The Broadway Federal Savings and Loan Association opened its doors to the public on January 11, 1947. This event registered another milestone in the progress of the Negro race and shows that colored people in Los Angeles are gearing themselves to the rapid tempo of business activity along the West Coast. The community responded to this new venture immediately and expressed their confidence in it by depositing over $162,000 during the first month. This new federal institution has established several records since its organization, say those well versed in the history of savings and loan associations in the California area. All of its accounts were insured by the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation in a shorter period of time than for any other association in this area.

This institution has an all-colored personnel and the directors and officers give their services free. The association is housed in a new, modernistic building located at 4325 South Broadway, Los Angeles 37, California, a building owned and controlled by a Negro concern, The Broadway Investment Company. The Broadway Escrow Company is also housed in this building; the Guaranty Realty Company, a flourishing real estate concern, occupies the opposite side of the ground floor; and the second floor has four modern apartments occupied by Negro tenants.

Entering its sixth month of operation, the association now has over three hundred accounts from all parts of the country, from members of all races, and assets of over $300,000. Many of its depositors from other parts of the country are people who are saving up for the day when they may retire to live in the warm sunshine of southern California. The officers and directors are proud of the fact that the Broadway Federal Savings is maintaining high standards and aiding the wage earner to save and purchase his home with a sound financial plan. They are encouraging thrift by paying 3 per cent annually on all accounts; thus giving their depositors the same security as other banking institutions.



EXTERIOR VIEW *showing main entrance to the Broadway Federal Savings and Loan Association.*

Earl Griffin

ENTRANCE *and reception hall of the Association, showing doorway off street.*

Earl Griffin

FAUCET COMPANY EXPANDS NEGRO EMPLOYMENT

The Sterling Faucet Company of Morgantown, W. Va., which has hitherto employed only a few Negroes in its foundry, has now opened its buffing and polishing department to them. This opening was made possible by J. W. Ruby, manager. Seven Negroes are now employed in this department and are doing such excellent work that Mr. Ruby has expressed willingness to increase the number to twenty.

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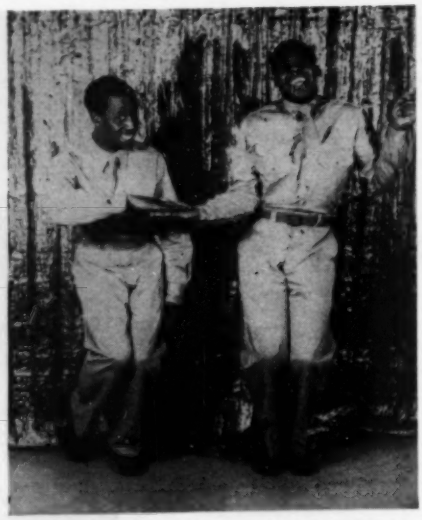


STARS OF OPERA, REVUE AND STAGE —*from L to R, Camilla Williams as the lonely Butterfly in Puccini' opera,* Madame Butterfly; *James A. Cross and William Wyckoff as "Stump and Stumpy" in the musical,* This Is the Army; *and Rose McClendon, fuglewoman in the dramatic achievements of the Negro.*

Negro Drama: Double Take

By John Lovell, Jr.

Mrs. Isaac's vigorous prose and graphic pictures capture the real story of the Negro in the American theatre, says the author in this article-review, the sixth in his series on the Negro and the theatre

THE power of the stage in America as well as America's perverse treatment of its minorities will be faithfully mirrored in any truthful history of the American drama.

Native American drama dates officially from 1767, and the first Negro character (Sambo in *The Triumph of Love*) from 1795. However, from the earliest days Negro life has gone one way and its depiction in American drama quite another. So naturally a book on the Negro in American drama would be a "double-take": first, there is the Negro as the popular imagination has depicted him in all his stereotyped grotesqueness; and there is the American Negro as he really is, as he lives from day to day, as thematic material truthfully reported in conformity with the "imaginative laws" of the stage.

At last we have a truthfully written book* which objectively discusses the role of the Negro in the American theatre from his beginnings to the present day. Though not a Negro herself, no one is better fitted than Mrs. Isaacs to write on this topic. Her father and her husband were pioneers in establishing the theatre in their mid-western home. Moving to New York, Mrs. Isaacs joined the staff of *Theatre Arts Monthly,* became its editor and owner, and an oracle of the American stage for a generation.

In addition to having the best possible theatrical perspective and experience, Mrs. Isaacs has a sense of the individual and the group when under dramatic stress and strain. This sense has been reinforced by her knowledge of hundreds of key people — actors, authors, producers, etc.—and she has an instinct for the theatre as a place of art and fructifying work. And above all, she has a heart as big as life itself.

What she has written is an impressionistic study of the chief Negro themes and personalities during the last 125 years. Since most of that business falls within the past 50 years, seven of Mrs. Isaacs' eight chapters cover the period since 1890. Mrs. Isaacs commands that period in the theatre in a personal way. That the Negro struggles of the period have impressed her so deeply is a fortunate thing. That she has had, in addition, an experience based on her collection and study of African Art and a close acquaintance with Alain Locke (to whom this book is dedicated) and others like him is equally fortunate.

Two things stand out marvelously in this book. One is the pictures; the other is Mrs. Isaacs' encouragement of a true interpretation of the American Negro along genuinely creative lines, without special allowances for his race. Mrs. Isaacs cherishes the Negro as one of the great undeveloped potentials in the American theatre, and certainly not because she wants to exploit him or pat him on the head. Therefore she

* *The Negro in the American Theatre,* by Edith J. R. Isaacs. New York: Theatre Arts, Inc., 1947. Illustrated. 143pp. $3.50.

ON STAGE, *top, are Mildred Smith and Alfred Drake in* Beggars' Holiday. *Bottom, Avon Long as Sporting Life in* Porgy and Bess.

TIRED FEET—*"Bert" Williams and George Walker in a scene from* Abyssinia. *Williams and Walker "elevated the comic Negro to a pinnacle of perfection and fame."*

avoids the superstition that Negroes are naturally talented. She says specifically that that superstition has worked as much harm as good, depending on how it is used. She likewise shows an understanding of the non-racial factors in the sociology of the segregated Negro. And although she has leaned a little too heavily on the viewpoint of the late Booker T. Washington, she has certainly presented her facts accurately.

She does not give a complete history, and you can quarrel a little with her allotments of space. For example, she gives three times as much to Josephine Baker as to Katherine Dunham. But she compensates tenfold for such faults through broad knowledge and understanding.

The pictures in *The Negro in the American Theatre* are an unfailing delight. Some of them are collector's items and taken together, all 58 of them are as good a show as you can get from a book.

Outstanding Personalities

At the front of the book, where she belongs, is Rose McClendon. Considering her vital presence in today's theatre, her influence over actors and movements and the other fruitions of her work, no one would believe she died eleven years ago. Many drama companies are today named for her, not honoring her merely but carrying forward her tremendous character and ideals. Portraits of other such personalities in the Negro's theatrical development are in Mrs. Isaacs' gallery: Abbie Mitchell, important in the theatre since her 15th year; Charles Gilpin, who came from operating an elevator to the dramatic might of O'Neill's *Emperor Jones;* Florence Mills, the unforgettable bluebird and the *Dixie to Broadway* girl; Bill Robinson, tap dancer without peer; Toniea Massaquoi, the young Liberian dancer, woodcarver and architectural designer, who as Frank Roberts has become a distinctive American figure; and Pearl Primus, original dancer and choreographer, who according to one writer "could jump over the Brooklyn bridge."

No American has made a greater international reputation through classical acting than Ira Aldridge. He was called Othello as Shakespeare created him. As a master of the art of acting and as a drawing-card he was unsurpassed in Europe during the middle years of the 19th century. Picking up the dignified torch he lighted were James Hewlett, earliest Shakespearean actor in America, Edna Thomas, the Lady Macbeth of the Federal Theatre, and, of course, Paul Robeson. Their stories are told and pictured in Mrs. Isaacs' book.

Egbert Austin ("Bert") Williams and his partner, George Walker, elevated the comic Negro to a pinnacle of perfection and fame, which he has not yet surpassed. Mrs. Isaacs tells Bert's full story: his early life, his terrible yearning for an education, his intense seriousness about his work, his sacrifice of self to open doors for his people, his original labors in composition, his conquest of the theatrical world in this country and abroad. Mrs. Isaacs shows how he put the Negro minstrel show on a high plane; but before that she shows how minstrelsy grew and fattened, ostensibly taking its cue from the life of the slave. Topping off a traditional minstrel show was a cakewalk. But the cakewalk came to have a great competitive significance, and minstrel and non-minstrel vied to produce inventive variations. The result was a great development in folk dancing, much of which charmed the theatregoer. Some of Mrs. Isaacs' most spirited descriptions are of folk things which originated in the Negro community and came into full bloom on the stage.

Finally, the story of Negro drama reaches an era in which the realistic life of the Negro overshadows the ridiculous plantation stereotypes. *Stevedore* is the outstanding play of this era and Mrs. Isaacs describes it in word and picture. She praises its theme of the union of white and black labor against a common enemy. She has presented sketches and pictures of *In Abraham's Bosom,* Paul Green's Pulitzer Prize drama about a North Carolina schoolteacher who tried to fight quietly for his people only to be eventually lynched; *Turpentine,* another Federal Theatre labor show with its scenes set in the swamps of Florida. She shows outstanding persons like Avon Long and Todd Duncan in characteristic but marvelously artistic poses. She has much to say of Ridgeley Torrence, a white playwright who with Eugene O'Neill established a poetic Negro drama.

Federal Theatre

The period of the war and after has been the period of greatest development for the Negro in the theatre. Where the Federal Theatre has unearthed and encouraged, the Army, the USO, and wartime Broadway refined, exploited, spread to the four corners of the earth.

Opera is a relatively new field for the American Negro. Opera has long maintained a color line, and the Negro artist has exhibited little affection for this art form. Recently, Todd Duncan and Camilla Williams, singing with the New York Opera Company, have erased the color bar from all but the stage of the Metropolitan. Camilla Williams has specialized in the Madame Butterfly role of Puccini's opera and Todd Duncan has scored in several operas, especially in *Pagliacci.* But before the Duncan-Williams era, Eddie Matthwes and Bruce Howard had sung gloriously in the Gertrude Stein-Virgil Thomson, *Four Saints in Three Acts;* earlier Asadata Dafora had led the African Company in *Kykunkor,* an African opera; and very recently Creighton Thompson, Helen Ferguson, and Juanita Hall were part of an interracial cast in Kurt Weill's American opera, *Street Scene.*

Mrs. Isaacs recommends the tributory theatre for all American hopefuls, Negroes included. She mentions the fine work being done by Negro groups in town and city communities and in the colleges. She gives in picture two outstanding samples: Gordon Heath and Marion Douglas (granddaughter of Abbie Mitchell and Will Marion Cook) in *Hamlet* done at Hampton Institute; and Patricia Roberts and Sadie Browne in *Mourning Becomes Electra* done at Howard University.

A SCENE *from* Turpentine, *a production of the Negro unit of the WPA Federal Theater Project.*

Both of these plays were produced by Owen Dodson, a director and a playwright. Mrs. Isaacs makes a strong plea to Americans to encourage their artists, Negro and white, but especially calls on Negro directors and playwrights to get their training in the living theatre before they come to Broadway.

Two Recent Plays

The hopes expressed in Mrs. Isaacs' book are being gradually realized in dramas about Negroes, with Negroes in the cast, and even in drama written by Negroes. Two dramatic happenings of the new season, barely a month old, are worthy of note.

First, *Our Lan'* opened at the Royale in New York on September 27. Muriel Smith as Delphine, William Veasey as Joshua Tain, Julie Haydon as Libeth Arbabanel, Valerie Black as Ellen, and Richard Angarola as Ollie Webster shared the lead billing. Thirty-eight other singers and actors completed the interracial cast.

In spite of Eddie Dowling's direction, the play has lost punch since its tryout performance in New York's Henry Street Theatre last spring. The theme of the Negro freedmen who stuck to their 40 acres in spite of the Union Army's promise to annhilate them and restore the rebel planters, is still rich and strong. But the players have been sheared of some of their spontaneity, and a stagey precision has taken the place of an easy-going pace.

Theodore Ward's writing ranges from sheer poetry to uncertain rhetoric. His characters talk with gusto; they sing with naturalness; but Ward often "prepares" for a spiritual in the manner of a boxer telegraphing his next blow. No critic praises his use of ten episodes in a play requiring sustained emotional power.

Muriel Smith as Delphine, the former slave girl who loves Tain, who wants "to be somebody," but who gets caught by the slick mulatto, Ollie, is utterly delightful.

Three nights after *Our Lan'* opened, Donald Ogden Stewart's new comedy,

IRA ALDRIDGE, *as Zanga in* The Revenge, *April, 1848, trampling on the prostrate Don Alonzo.*

How I Wonder, came to New York. Directed by Garson Kanin (who gave *Born Yesterday* to a grateful America), and starring Raymond Massey, *How I Wonder* is something slightly new in the racial democracy field.

Raymond Massey is a top-flight astronomy professor who knows he is a liberal. Everett Sloane is his "mind." When Massey and Sloane find themselves trying to decide whether or not Massey should compromise his liberalism in order to be the college president his "lights" entitle him to, they engage in debates on pressing current issues. One issue is that presented by a Negro attendant in Massey's laboratory, a part excellently played by John Marriott. It is the only recent play that reflects the great truth that the Negro is the greatets test of American claims to democracy. For that reason alone it should be examined, though it is greatly lacking in dramatic devices and unity.

You should buy the Isaacs story, profusely illustrated as it is, and study carefully the condition in the American theatre. You should also see these new plays when they come your way.

Chromosome Number Fifty-Seven

By Murray Klutch

Millions of women were not allowed to marry. All jim-crow restrictions were abolished. Soldiers were mobilized. You will see why when you read this unusual story

ONLY a few people knew that the thing was happening. Columnists on four key national newspapers, high-ranking government officials both in and outside of the president's cabinet, three of the world's most famous scientists, and the owners of the more influential newspapers and radio broadcasting chains. But the shock was so great that they scarcely dared even to breathe their knowledge in each other's presence. Their first reaction to the accidental discovery was one of complete helplessness and utter confusion. Even the development of the atomic bomb some six years earlier had produced none of this terror. The secrecy of the famed Manhattan Project was but a mild form of censorship compared to the restrictions enveloping the eighteen men selected to be entrusted with the discovery.

With the national elections scheduled to take place within four months, the country was startled to learn that the leaders of the two major political parties had met in secret session and decided to amalgamate into a National Unity Party, and to present only one presidential candidate to the country. The outcry from local politicians in all sections of the country and the bewilderment of the people at such an unprecedented decision was answered with a brif proclamation issued by the leaders of both parties in conjunction with the president. It merely stated: "Information at the disposal of the leaders of the country is of such a secretive nature that it cannot be revealed to the people at this time, and leads us to believe that the step we have taken is the only one possible in view of circumstances which we are in no position to reveal to the country at the present time."

Never before in the history of the country had such a measure been instituted to unite the people against an enemy who could not be revealed. The outcry of the people for more information surrounding the reasons for such a move met only with a nationwide propaganda campaign stressing "national unity for the interests of all people," and other extremely nationalistic slogans to counteract the barrage of criticism directed against the "Committee of 18," as the select group of men who held the secret now designated themselves.

National and international issues over which the members of both parties had bickered, wrangled, and fought suddenly dropped from discussion. The press was at a complete loss to understand why the news services and news tickers ceased abruptly to bring them stories from which sensational headlines could be created, and the public enticed to read their papers. Deserted by their party leaders, the members of the national legislatures succumbed to futile discussions about changing the Gregorian Calendar, investigating Communists in government agencies, and analyzing expenditures for World War II. Efforts to locate leaders of the two parties proved to be unavailing. Only the most trusted members of the FBI knew that the Committee of 18 was spending most of its time in seclusion in a little town in Georgia.

Editorials and letters to the newspapers demanded to know the reason behind the secret activities of the Committee of 18. Mass meetings and demonstrations throughout the country demanded to know the reason for the alarm which had caused the president to proclaim a "State of Emergency" under which the army was mobilized and every street in every village, town, and city occupied with armed soldiers who were not even told what they were "protecting" the country aaginst.

Cause for alarm became all the more evident among the people when they were informed by the press that the members of Congress had passed the budget recommended by the president without a single dissenting vote. Rumor factories worked day and night manufacturing rationalizations for this chain of unusual developments. The most widely-accepted reason: that an invasion of the country was imminent; that the Russians, and then the Spaniards and then the Czechs and practically every other country had discovered the "know-how" of manufacturing the A-bomb still did not explain the curious manner in which the manpower of the land was being mobilized. War plants were not being built; even those already in existence were not being put to use, which infuriated big business. Labor demanded to know the reasons behind the drafting of great numbers of workers, and the people insisted upon knowing why no age limits had been set for the unheard of draft which included every man from the age of eighteen up. What made the entire situation all the more incomprehensible was the fact that soldiers were not required to go through any basic military training. Their only function was to know the movements and habits of every single individual in every family assigned to them.

In such crowded cities as New York, Chicago, San Francisco, Cleveland, and Pittsburgh the number of soldiers assigned to each street was so great and the degree of surveillance so high that the people were literally thrown into panic. But if the people were; the soldiers were more so. Their orders were merely to file a twelve-point questionnaire every day concerning the movements and activities of the people for whom they were "responsible." There was no reference in the questionnaire to an individual's labor affiliations, political work, or even "sub-

versive" activities. The "social questionnaire," as it came to be dubbed throughout the country, gave no indication whatever of the reasons behind the actions of the president, who had been given special powers of the broadest possible nature under the "War Powers Act" by a frightened and cowed Congress, a Congress which dared not even question the orders from the "boys higher up."

Among the first to protest were the soldiers themselves who were sent off to parts of the country far enough away from home so that they could not visit their wives and families. The barracks to which they were assigned were almost inaccessible to visitors. And the only women they were permitted to see were the ones their "social questionnaires" permitted. And these, only after the most stringent non-fraternization rule had been put into effect by army officials. In fact, to disobey the new non-fraternization rule meant immediate court-martial. It was considered to be an act of treason.

The whispers of an invasion soon gave way to rumor of the discovery of a group of radicals who had accidentally fallen upon the manufacturing secret of the A-Bomb. Another theory had it that it was not the A-Bomb at all. In fact, the president and his cabinet, which had consistently opposed sharing the secret of the bomb, suddenly—of their own accord—and most surprisingly, introduced a resolution in the UN Assembly urging the outlawing and complete destruction of the A-Bomb. This resolution was unanimously adopted and put into effect at once by UN.

An issue over which war had scarcely been averted in 1950 was now resolved before the eyes of a startled world still seeking the reasons for such an action.

Use of the "social questionnaire" with its emphasis upon social behavior fertilized another rumor to the effect that a terribly infectious disease had suddenly been discovered, a disease whose effects were more deadly than those of the bomb. It was only after a spontaneous boycott of all eating establishments had gripped the nation and threatened the bankruptcy of all restaurants, that the president was constrained to make one of his now rare appearances before the people to tell them that there was no such "disease," and that citizens could eat outside their homes without fear. But other than that not a solitary word.

Two days later, strict newspaper and radio censorship went into effect. Every publication throughout the country, regardless of size or importance, was required to submit advance proofs to the National Defense Censorship Committee, a section of the Committee of 18. Editors everywhere were amazed and dumbfounded to find that material heretofore considered inoffensive was the very material now censored. They found that they could print practically anything they wanted so long as no reference was made to color, age, or social relationships. And, for once, readers were startled to find no mention of marriages, births, deaths, engagements, or Negroes. A few liberal editors welcomed the censorship of social chitchat, but the others rose in protest.

About the only group which seemed to benefit from such censorship were the Negroes. They found that they were no longer caricatured or stereotyped, or even identified in any way on the radio or in the press or movies.

However, the act that provoked more consternation than any other was the nationalization of marriage bureaus, diaper services, and maternity hospitals. A special marriage license bureau under strict government control was set up and every couple forced to undergo a series of medical examinations severe enough to discourage marriage in even the most persevering. Indeed, there was so much red-tape involved before two people could get married, that it appeared quite obvious that the government was doing everything it humanly could, under the guise of national defense, to prevent marriages from being consummated. Religious organizations retaliated by refusing to conduct religious ceremonies until the Committee of 18 eased its restrictions. But the church soon realized that this was the very thing the government wanted and countered with a threat to marry couples without marriage certificates and to legalize "black-market" marriages. Whereupon the president issued an "executive order extraordinary" making it an act of treason for any persons to marry without first securing the marriage certificate required by law under the War Powers Act.

The step that created near pandemonium, however, was an order compelling all women to have their babies in accredited, government-supervised hospitals. Popular rebellion upon issuance of this ukase was averted only by the government's willingness to assume the full expense of accouchement. No explanation for this ridiculous intrusion into one's family life was given other than that the order was for the "national good."

Accompanying these executive orders were a series of proclamations which astounded everybody and created more discussion than any of the previous acts of the government. For these new regulations applied to Negroes. The orders forbade discrimination in any form against colored people; outlawed restrictive covenants and jim-crow ordinances of every kind. Poll taxes, discrimination in education, employment, and housing were now *verboten*. The amazing thing was that the sponsors of these laws among the Committee of 18 were the very ones who had bitterly opposed previous legislation of this kind.

Fiercest resistance arose among those groups which had always fought against the Negro. The KKK and native fascist groups openly rebelled and instituted a series of terroristic acts which had to be quelled through the use of federal troops and the imprisonment of their leaders. Several leaders of these groups, two from Georgia and one from Brooklyn, were tried before a military tribunal and shot as traitors. Even those who were opposed to the activities of these men were appalled by the severe reprisals of the government. Many members of Congress, known for their anti-Negro sentiments and activities, demanded to know the reason behind these latest orders and actions, but they were ordered in no uncertain terms to shut up.

The outlawing of discrimination and the extension of civil rights to Negroes by the federal government was followed almost immediately by the wiping out of slums and blighted areas and the finding of decent homes and jobs for Negroes. But the Negroes were not the only ones who benefited from this nation-wide housing reform. Every family living under sub-standard conditions found itself moved into modern, clean houses in the most healthful surroundings. It was as though all the abscesses and sores which had plagued the people had suddenly been lanced and cured.

How long this secret which produced terror and anxiety, as well as reforms, could have been held from the people before a "leak" is still a matter of much debate. But the secret was printed by the editor of a small newspaper in Springfield, Illinois, who had stumbled upon the reason quite accidentally, and who decided to risk the consequences of defying the government. The headlines of that small paper swept through the country, broke the censorship, and released the people from the anxiety neurosis which had enveloped them. It read as follows:

EFFECTS OF HIROSHIMA AND BIKINI A-BOMBS KNOWN

CHROMOSOMES AND GENES ALTERED

MANKIND CHANGING INTO RACE OF BLACKS

It has been learned from authoritative

(*Continued on page 349*)

Z. ALEXANDER LOOBY: AN EFFECTIVE LEADER

LEADERS may be divided into two classes, the ineffective and the effective. The ineffective leader is characterized by much sound and fury signifying nothing. Like a nobody going nowhere to get nothing, he is continually striving to capture and maintain the attention and the plaudits of the crowd. Hence, the ineffective leader gets nowhere in great haste. His followers simply mark time.

On the other hand, the effective leader is sincere, unassuming, persevering, and fearless. The effective leader has clearly stated objectives and convictions; he has the courage of these convictions.

Such a leader is Attorney Z. Alexander Looby of Nashville, Tennessee. Born on May 8, 1899, in Parham, Antigua, British West Indies, he has become one of the truly distinguished leaders of these postwar United States. From Howard University he received the bachelor of arts degree, *cum laude*, in 1922; from Columbia University, the bachelor of laws degree in 1925; from New York University, the doctor of juridical science degree in 1926.

Mr. Looby has been one of the outstanding members of the faculties of both Tennessee Agricultural and Industrial State College and Fisk university. Presently, he conducts the course in medical jurisprudence at Meharry Medical College, Nashville, and at the same time practices law.

Practicing law since 1928, he is not only chairman of the local legal redress committee of the Association but he is also a member of the NAACP national legal committee.

He has been grand basileus of the Omega Psi Phi fraternity, which at its conclave in Fort Worth, Texas, awarded him its plaque for having made the most outstanding contribution during 1946. The Faith Community Center, Philadelphia, Pa., rewarded him with a similar honor; and the Chicago *Defender* included Mr. Looby on its 1946 honor roll. Howard University awarded him a certificate and plaque in recognition of distinguished postgraduate achievement.

Here certainly is a leader of uncommon distinction, a genuinely praiseworthy personality. He is innately kind, genial, considerate of everyone's right to be heard; broadminded, devoid of "side." It goes without saying, therefore, that Z. Alexander Looby is one of the best liked men in middle Tennessee.

Although a very busy man, he, like sensible men everywhere, takes time out periodically for his hobbies: bridge and rummy.

Z. ALEXANDER LOOBY *(left), Maurice Weaver, and Leon Ransome pictured together during the Columbia, Tenn., "riot" trial.*

As a lawyer he has few peers. Not so long ago he won the case of the Nashville Negro teachers for equalization of salaries, and the case to have Negroes serve on Nashville juries. He presently represents Negro doctors of Nashville who feel that they deserve the privilege of using the facilities of the Nashville City Hospital.

Mr. Looby also played a prominent role as defense attorney in the Columbia, Tenn., "riot" trials. Scholar, gentleman, advocate, Mr. Z. Alexander Looby is truly an effective leader.

J. RANDOLPH FISHER

JIM CROW OUTREMER

These two items discussing racial discrimination in Jamaica, B. W. I., and Brazil, respectively, have a familiar ring to American ears. The first, "It's Safe to Discriminate," comes from the "This Month" section of the August, 1947, issue of JAMAICA ARISE, *official organ of N. W. Manley's The People's National Party.*

Rachel de Queiroz, well-known Brazilian novelist of CAMINHO DE PEDRAS *(Rocky Road),* AS TRES MARIAS *(The Three Marys), and other books, discusses the burgeoning color line in Southern Brazil in the May 20, 1947, issue of the biweekly* O CRUZEIRO. O CRUZEIRO *is a popular illustrated magazine published by one of the large Brazilian newspaper chains, Diarios Associados.*

Brazilian officials here in New York claim that as a Communist Senhorinha Queiroz would be expected to exaggerate, for propaganda purposes, isolated incidents of jim crow into an ogreish trend.

IT'S SAFE TO DISCRIMINATE

Those smug, complacent Jamaicans who prattle that there is no public colour discrimination have got a rude shock when the Melrose Hotel management refused to accept bookings for some of the delegates to the Caribbean Labour Congress (scheduled to open in Kingston Sept. 2 next) on the ground that they "Won't take coloured people any more."

In the northern section of the U. S. racked as it is with overt discrimination, such an act would be punished under the federal law. [*Though many northern states have civil-rights statutes, there is no federal enactment specifically prohibiting racial discrimination.*] But here, in a British Country, hotel keepers can feel safe in the practise of discrimination against the majority of our population.

COLOR LINE

By Rachel de Queiroz

A well-known writer for whom I have a great deal of respect and admiration complained the other day in the columns of a Paulista morning paper about "the artificial invention of a color problem" here in Brazil, and then made your humble servant partly responsible for the "invention."

My illustrious confrere contends that this "philosophy of mulattism" was born of an oversimplified concept sired in the brains of certain "maverick sociologists" who reason that "If the United States has a Negro problem, why not Brazil too?" And after discussing the philosophy of mulattism these dolts prove, by waxing lyrical in a sort of why-I-am-proud manner, that Brazil has never had any racial prejudice. Then they will mention our great blacks and mulattoes and proceed to qualify every suspected case of discrimination as "an individual case."

These are fine and generous and patriotic things to say, but are they true?

Does my dear colleague remember a certain petition to the government of Sao Paulo made by the businessmen of the famous Paulista Triángulo in April of 1944 asking that colored people be prohibited from passing through the Triángulo? And does he remember the notice given to the recreation clubs of Paulista citizens of color enjoining them to move their headquarters outside the sacred area of this said Triángulo? Or is this simply another "individual case"? [*The Triángulo or Triangle, the commercial heart of the city of Sao Paulo, is bounded by the streets of Sao Bento, 15 de Novembro, and Direita. Because the district is one of exclusive shops, it is said that merchants in the area tried to prohibit colored laborers from passing through on their way to and from their work.*]

Does he remember the notorious case of Créciuma in Santa Catarina [*state in southern Brazil*] where a colored engineer, son of a famous physician, came near being lynched for having dared to attend, as an invited guest, a dance at a local club?

And will you say there is no race prejudice when hardly any of the Brazilian religious orders will accept colored people save as lay members; that is to say, as servant? [*The Brazilian irmandades or religious orders have traditionally frowned upon the admission of any but virtually white Negroes.*]

And when first-class *colégios* will not admit colored pupils, male or female?

And when The Light, and the government closes its eyes to this practice, refuses to hire colored telephone girls? [*In Brazil the six associated gas, electric, telephone, and streetcar companies of the cities of Sao Paulo, Santos, and Rio are known as "A Light."*]

And when none of the admittedly swanky shops of Rio or Sao Paulo, or any other capital, will employ colored clerks?

By the way, does anyone remember ever having seen colored manicurists and hairdressers in any of the more luxurious beauty salons? Has my colleague read in Mario Filho's book about the fight to get Negro players admitted to the football clubs of Rio de Janeiro?

Does he know that no bar in the Atlántica area of Copacabana will permit colored patrons to sit at its tables? And that the same restrictions hold for the casinos; that the same rule still applies in certain *boites* or nightclubs patronized by the smart-set? Does he remember how the Hotel Serrador insulted Dr. Irene Diggs? And that like the Hotel Serrador there are other first-class hostelries which have a policy of excluding Negro guests? [*The Avenida Atlantica on the Copacabana Beach is a celebrated bathing-place. The Hotel Serrador in Rio de Janeiro in February of this year would not permit Dr. Diggs to occupy rooms reserved for her by the American Embassy.*]

Does he remember the incident denounced by my dear friend, the great writer Lia Correira Dutra, when two of her students were refused admission, because they were mulattoes, to a certain official school?

And speaking of schools, do you know, my distinguished confrere, that the Fundaçao Rio Branco, a school to prepare young men for the diplomatic service, also refuses to accept colored students? If this is not racial discrimination—and what is worse yet, discrimination admitted and condoned by the government—what would you call it? [*The Fundaçao Rio Branco is named after the famous Brazilian statesman and minister of foreign affairs, José Maria da Silva Paranhos, barao do Rio Branco (1845-1912). As foreign minister it was Baron do Rio Branco's policy to appoint only whites or "white mulattoes" to foreign posts. His name, incidentally, means "white river."*]

In addition to the examples just cited, I could give a hundred others. If these are not sufficient, I shall be glad to mail my illustrious colleague my correspondence, post free, and then he can find out for himself whether or not there is color prejudice in this country.

Yes, we know that the masses of our people, mixed as they are, are not racists. Nor is it news to us that our color problem is closely entwined with that of class. Our poor white is almost as much a pariah as the Negro: but not quite, because a white man almost automatically moves out of his class as soon as he gets a few dollars in his pocket. He moves up socially and may go wherever he pleases.

On the other hand, the Negro, money or no money, is always a Negro and neither his money nor his education will remove the restrictions already enumerated, as well as many others which have not been mentioned. There is little point in singling out the names of famous Negroes, for they are exceptions. Even in the United States where not even the most perfervid optimist will deny the existence of racial discrimination, people can point out illustrious Negroes. What they are careful not to mention, however, is the price these individuals pay in humiliation, suffering, and heroism for their superior status.

Our brilliant chronicler falls into a crassly elementary error when he attributes the founding of leagues of colored people, Negro fronts, etc., to "maverick sociologists" and "philosophers of mulattism." The philosophers of mulattism rightly desire the contrary: the abolition of these leagues and associations; the abolition of all restrictions that at present separate whites from blacks; and the welcoming of colored people into national fellowship. [*White immigration into southern Brazil has introduced considerable color prejudice into the states of Sao Paulo, Rio Grande do Sol, and Santa Catarina and the Negroes have in self-defense organized their Frente Negra Brasileira, their Uniao Negra do Brasil, etc. In the fall of 1945, Arlindo Alves of Sao Paulo wrote the NAACP to suggest that the Association establish a branch there.*]

Frederick Schulze

ASSIGNED TO CITY HALL—*Eleanor I. Holley, formerly secretary of the Bridgeport-Stratford, Conn., branch of the NAACP has been appointed a typist in the office of the city clerk, City Hall, Bridgeport, Conn. She is the first Negro to receive such an appointment in City Hall.*

HIGH PRICES IN CHICAGO

A statement on high prices for consumer's goods in Chicago, Ill., particularly as these prices relate to Negro families, prepared by the Chicago branch of the NAACP and presented by President Henry W. McGee before the sub-committee of the congressional joint committee on the economic report, October 2, 1947. Footnotes have been omitted.

THE Chicago branch of the NAACP has a particular purpose in appearing before this sub-committee of the congressional joint committee on economic report. We desire to emphasize here that Negro families in our city not only suffer with other families the burden of rising prices, but that in addition, high prices in other neighborhoods are inevitably higher yet in neighborhoods occupied by Negroes.

Over 100,000 Negroes have come to Chicago since 1940, increasing the Negro population from 279,000 to a currently estimated 375,000 to 400,000. The highly effective practice of confining Negro families to particular neighborhoods, for which our city is well-known, has resulted in absorption by the largest of our Negro neighborhoods of possibly three-fourths (or 75,000 persons) of the increase since 1940. Thus, this area, known as the "Black Belt" or the Southside, already overcrowded to the extent of 80,000 persons in 1940, now staggers under an additional 75,000 excess persons, or a total of over 150,000 persons—far too many for decent living. Few persons recognize, however, that such heaping together of human beings not only renders vacancies non-existent, shooting skyward the costs of shelter, but likewise leaves commercial space hardly obtainable.

Where such space can be made to exist, there is given the seller on a silver platter a monopoly market in the superabundance of families around him. Regardless of quality of service rendered or products offered, there are customers galore in the "Black Belt." Thus Negro families in Chicago are forced to pay higher prices for food, clothing, shelter, and household furnishings.

War-time gains in employment for Negroes in Chicago were appreciable, both in volume and in wages. However, racial differentials in the employment pattern were by no means eliminated and losses in employment due to a return to discriminating practices are rising. The Bureau of Census, for example, recently reported 7 per cent of the Negro labor force in the metropolitan area as unemployed as compared with only 2 per cent of the white labor force. Rising racial employment handicaps are reflected by the fact that "In

March, 1946, the first month for which information is available, the proportion of non-white among the Chicago areas unemployment compensation beneficiaries was 22 per cent as against an October, 1946, ratio of 35 per cent." Work opportunities for Negroes are nevertheless favorable enough to permit us to assume that the average Nehead is a modest $32 weekly.

The average Negro family in Chicago is approximately a four-person family, the head of which is employed either in the food industry (including meat packing), iron and steel industries, wholesale and retail establishments, or in domestic and other service occupations, including hotels and hospitals. One hundred and forty-five thousand of the 244,000 non-whites employed in the Chicago area are at work in these categories. The current average gross weekly earnings of the average family head is a modest $32 weekly.

Against the Heller committee four-person budget, based on minimum standards of health and decency, reported at $68.78 per week in September of last year (now believed to be about $74 per week), it is obvious that single wage earner Negro families in Chicago have less than half enough money for detent living within today's consumer's cost structure.

As we have explained, however, these low average dollar earnings, when spent in neighborhoods totally occupied by Negroes, are spent in virtually a monopoly retail market.

That Negroes in total Negro neighborhoods pay higher rents than others is well-known and has been the subject of several well-authenticated studies. No government reports, however, can possibly reveal the abominably excessive rents exactable from Negro families in neighborhoods where population density, even in 1940, in spots, ran as high as 90,000 per square mile. Our organization once received a report of a two-room apartment, unfurnished, offered at *$55 per week*. Such an offering is, of course, exceptional, and perhaps the Office of Price Administration ultimately dealt with the matter. That it did happen, however, suggests that rent robbery is rampant in the "Black Belt." Only rent ceilings—themselves necessarily established at high levels—keep a $55 week rent for two unfurnished rooms from becoming a full-grown, unchained monstrosity on the Southside. And even under government control, evasions, reported and unreported, are extensive. Indeed, thousands of persons, single and couples, pay $8, $10 to $15, $20 per week for single rooms, sharing bath, perhaps kitchen, and always rubbing shoulders and sulks with too many others in the household. This, we emphasize, is an evil of over-crowding—it means $36 to $45 and $67.50 to $90 per month for single rooms!

DELEGATES *of the Ohio State Conference of Branches, which met September 26-28 in Akron, Ohio, photographed in front of the state capitol.*

Government reports do *suggest* that there is something plenty rotten about Southside rents. Only last month the Bureau of Census, reporting on the entire metropolitan district of Chicago, revealed that the 8 per cent non-white population occupied 36 per cent of the *sub-standard* housing as well as 36 per cent of the over-crowded housing in the entire district. Yet the same report revealed a higher percentage of non-white families paying $50 and above rents than white families occupying dwellings 98 per cent in *standard* conditions.

Returning to specific consideration of the average four-person family, we have assumed that rarely does such a family occupy a normal two-bedroom unit. Even the occasional long-established, highly favored family pays a $47.50 rent, not including utilities (or $52 to $55 per month with utilities). Many of these few families have "agreed" to the 15 per cent rent increase offer. Itself virtually an edict where vacancies neither exist nor are forseeable.

The disparity in quality of housing and other conditions of occupancy between white and Negro neighborhoods, to which we have indirectly alluded, indicates the difficulty in comparing rents payable by a four-person white and a four-person Negro family. It is, however, the Negro family moving into neighborhoods previously unoccupied by Negroes who experience the distinct differential. A member of our staff recently made such a move. She found the rare, normal two-bedroom, $52 to $55 per month apartment in her old neighborhood, generally available at $35 per month in her new neighborhood.

We earlier stressed that not only shelter but other commodities as well are higher in the "Black Belt." In the remaining few minutes we shall briefly treat food cost differentials paid in neighborhoods of Negro residence and those occupied by whites.

Moderate income white housewives, who represent 90 per cent of the housewife population, are hardly more than half of the busy shoppers in the city's giant groceries and food shops in Chicago's loop. The other half of the bargain-hunters are Negro housewives. They are there in disproportionate number, not out of greater consumer wisdom, but because they are fleeing higher prices. In April, 1943, our organization made a comparative survey of retail food prices under the direction of a graduate student from the University of Chicago. He was assisted in the planning of the study by staff members of the local regional office of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The study disclosed only a 2 to 3 per cent differential, but we are convinced there is now, however, a 6 to 10 per cent differential. We are further convinced that where farmers, processors, distributors and retailers generally have increased their markups, on the Southside of Chicago food retailers have in addition to taking advantage of the normal markup, also taken advantage of the privileged markup given them in a market both inflated and monopolistic.

The Negro family, shopping at the neighborhood store, is a victim of such compound inflation. Last week-end [a week in September] we canvassed prices on the Southside and those in white neighborhoods and discovered that Negro families are paying an 8 per cent premium for butter, 6 per cent for eggs, 6 per cent for meats, and 13 per cent for potatoes. It is fresh leafy vegetables (consumed in large quantities by thousands of Negro families, still

(Continued on page 349)

Along the N.A.A.C.P. Battlefront

CAMPAIGN DRIVE WORKERS AND OFFICERS *of the Salem, Va., branch.*

SEGREGATION

St. Louis, Missouri: In appreciation of the admirable stand which Archbishop Joseph E. Ritter took on the stand of racial segregation in the parochial schools of his archdiocese, the St. Louis branch of the NAACP, through its president, D. M. Grant, sent him the following telegram: "Extended herewith is the sincere admiration and good wishes of a non-Catholic over your Christian ruling concerning racially integrated Catholic schools in St. Louis. I am sure this is pleasing in the sight of Him."

When Archbishop Ritter issued an order admitting Negroes to archdiocesan high schools, a small group of local Catholics protested against the order and appealed to the Apostolic Delegate to the United States, Archbishop Amaleto Cicognani, to act to have Archbishop Ritter change his decision. The answer of the Apostolic Delegate was, No. And when the dissident group threatened civil court action, Archbishop Ritter told them that as Catholics they would incur excommunication.

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania: In a letter addressed to the superintendent of the Harrisburg school district, the NAACP legal department charged discrimination in the assignment of Negro and white pupils in various elementary schools in Harrisburg. It was alleged that a Negro youth, Byron Quann, seven years of age, lived within the prescribed area of jurisdiction and should have attended the Boas school, a predominantly white school. He was denied admission to the said school and sent to a predominantly Negro school, in which district he did not reside.

Attorneys for the NAACP have stated in commenting upon this situation that segregation is being effectively accomplished in many northern communities, particularly southern Jersey, and in central Pennsylvania cities and towns. They point to the situation obtaining in Steelton, Penn., a neighboring city of Harrisburg, where segregation in the elementary schools is almost complete. They state further that a pattern of quasi-segregation of Negroes in the elementary schools of Harrisburg has been long established; that children of a few privileged Negro families have been allowed to attend predominantly white schools but that the masses of Negro children have been required to attend segregated Negro schools supervised by "helping teachers" instead of principals. No Negro teacher in the school system of Harrisburg is permitted to teach or to supervise any class in which white pupils are enrolled, and no Negro teacher has been promoted to a position in the high school or been engaged to teach in the high school.

Restrictive Covenants: Attorney General Tom Clark has been asked by the NAACP to file briefs amici curiae in the two restrictive covenant cases which will be heard before the Supreme Court this month. The first case is *McGhee v. Sipes,* which is a writ of certiorari to the Supreme Court of Michigan, which court upheld an injunction enforcing an agreement among property owners which reads: "This property shall not be used or occupied by any person except those of the Caucasian race." The second case is *Shelly v. Kraemer,* which is a writ of certiorari to the Supreme Court of Missouri to review the affirmance of a restrictive agrement which was interpreted by the court as barring not only occupancy by non-Caucasians, but also ownership of the property by non-Caucasians.

EDUCATION

Sweatt Case: On October 1, attorneys for Heman Marion Sweatt filed their brief on appeal in the case against the University of Texas, in which Sweatt is seeking entrance to the law school.

The brief for Sweatt in the Court of Civil Appeals is based on three main points: (1) there is no rational basis for racial classification for school purposes; (2) public schools, "separate but equal", in theory are in fact and administration consistently unequal and discriminatory; (3) it is impossible to have the equality required by the Fourteenth Amendment in a public school system which relegates citizens of a disadvantaged racial minority group to separate schools.

The brief contains not only legal authorities but a carefully assembled group of recognized authorities as recorded in scientific journals, both le-

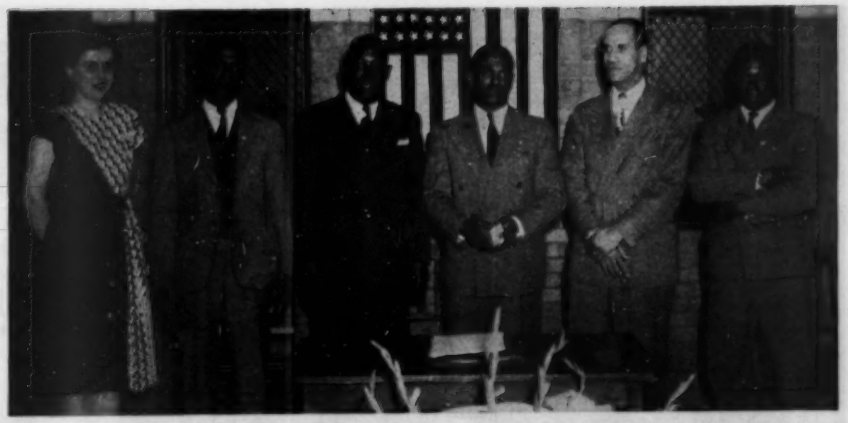
gal, sociological and economic, and it concludes:

"Appellant has conclusively proved that the right to equal protection guaranteed him under the Fourteenth Amendment can only be secured by his admission forthwith to the University of Texas school of law. It has been clearly established herein both by appellant and by appellees that the 'equal but separate' doctrine on which the constitutional and satutory requirements for segregated schools in Texas are based is an invalid hypothesis. This record demonstrates that one cannot recognize the requirement of equal treatment as a valid principle and simultaneously defend the practice of racial segregation.

"Fundamental to our American tradition is the belief in individual, racial and religious equality. This belief has been embodied in our constitutions, enacted into our statutes and carefully protected and preserved in our court decisions. Texas and other southern states have attempted to perpetuate a segregated system. They have rejected the fundamental premise of equality and in reality believe that Negroes hold and must necessarily retain a status inferior to whites. This rejection of a concept considered basic to our system is given legal status by a theory which purports to be founded upon the premise of equality. A choice must be made between these two conflicting concepts. Our Constitution and laws make clear that only one choice can be made."

On May 16, 1946, attorneys for Sweatt filed application for a writ of mandamus in the district court of Travis county, Texas, for admission to the school of law of the University of Texas, alleging that he had been refused admission solely because of race or color. On June 26, 1946, the district court entered an order that the University of Texas in refusing to admit Sweatt had violated the Constitution of the United States but gave the state six months to either set up a separate but equal law school or to admit Sweatt to the University of Texas. On December 17, 1946, the district court denied the petition for writ of mandamus on the grounds that the State of Texas proposed to set up a law school in February of 1947.

This judgment was appealed in the Court of Civil Appeals of Texas and on March 26 of this year that Court reversed the judgment of the trial court and remanded the case for further proceedings. In May of this year a full trial was held in the district court in Austin, Texas, at which time the lawyers for Sweatt began a direct attack upon the legality of the segregation statutes of Texas. For the first time in any case expert testimony was produced to demonstrate that segregation in public schools has no scientific basis and that segregation itself is illegal since a denial of the equal protection of the laws.



MARTINS FERRY, *Ohio, branch group pictured at a recent meeting. L to R, Janet Gregg, branch secretary; Rev. W. S. Ellis, pastor Second Methodist church; Thomas Starks, labor leader; Ellis Ross, vocational counsellor; Charles P. Lucas, executive secretary Cleveland branch; and Emmett Freeman, branch president.*

The state of Texas in defending its action relied solely upon the segregation statutes of Texas and the fact that the state of Texas had established three and one-half million dollars for a Negro university, to be constructed. They also contended that the provision for the Negro law school in the basement of a small building in Austin would give to Negroes the same, or even better, education than that of the great University of Texas.

Sipuel Case: The United States Supreme Court has been requested to review the decision of the Supreme Court of Oklahoma affirming the decision of the lower court in refusing a writ of mandamus compelling the admission of a qualified Negro to the law school of the University of Oklahoma.

On January 19, 1946, Ada Lois Sipuel, a graduate of Langston university in Oklahoma, applied for admission to the law school of the University of Oklahoma. Her application was refused solely because of her race or color. Prior to the trial of the case, on July 9, 1946, an agreed statement of facts was filed whereby the state of Oklahoma admitted that Miss Sipuel possessed all of the academic and moral qualifications for admission but was refused because the laws of Oklahoma

Colour Arts Studio

PANCAS *from the Cincinnati, Ohio, branch membership campaign. Front row, L to R, Mrs. Theodore M. Berry, Mrs. Sallie Harris, Mrs. Montella Kellogg, Mrs. Hattie Pope, and Mrs. Marietta Cordell. Standing, E. N. Anderson, branch president; Mrs. Beulah Irons, Mrs. Susie Heard, Mrs. Nellie L. Smith, Mrs L. E. Sandusky, Mrs. Eliza Billberry, and Arthur Williams. Not shown in picture: Mrs. Carrie Fultz, Mrs. Theodore Walker, Otho Bush, Mrs. Alberta Gibbs, Ivoser Brown, and H. C. Albright.*

OFFICERS AND OFFICIALS *of the Texas State Conference of Branches which met at Denison, Texas, September 5-6.*

required segregated schools. The agreed statement also admitted that unless Miss Sipuel received her law training within the state of Oklahoma she would be seriously handicapped in the practice of law. The state of Oklahoma had not made any provision for legal training of Negroes within the state, but has relied on alleged out-of-state scholarships and the fact that Miss Sipuel had not requested them to establish a jim-crow law school.

The writ of mandamus was refused by the judge of the District Court of Cleveland County, Oklahoma, on July 9, 1946; motion for a new trial was denied on July 24, 1946, and the case was appealed to the Supreme Court of Oklahoma.

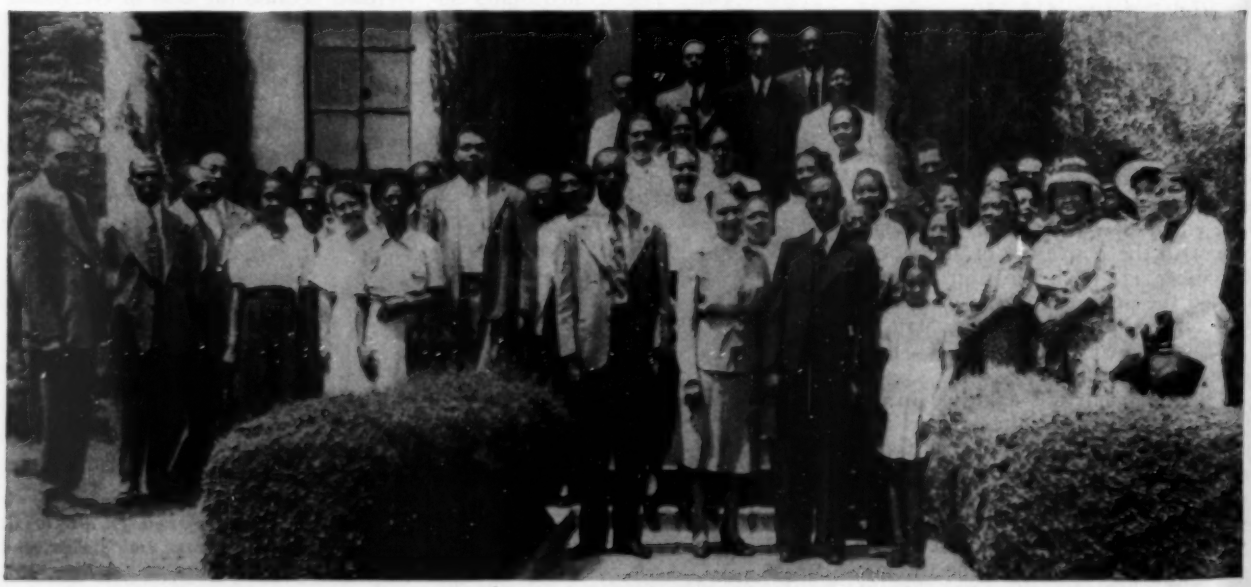
That court, on April 29, 1947, affirmed the judgment of the lower court. The petition to the United States Supreme Court requesting a writ of certiorari to review the decision of the Supreme Court of Oklahoma contends that there is no material difference whatsoever in either the law or the facts between this case and the University of Missouri case.

GIFTS

Baptist Convention: The National Baptist Convention, meeting in September in Kansas City for its sixty-seventh annual session, approved a donation of $500 to the NAACP, which was accepted by Reverend P. Offutt, NAACP church secretary.

What the Branches Are Doing

CALIFORNIA: At the West Coast regional conference held March 7-8 in SAN FRANCISCO a regional plan was outlined to delegates and sent to all branches in their region for their acceptance or rejection. A majority of branches accepted the plan, which, among other things,



PASADENA, CALIFORNIA, BRANCH *was aided in its 1947 membership drive by Dr. Henry Collins, Jr., progressive minister of the Calvary CME church, Pasadena. Fifty members were secured in the church on NAACP Sunday. Rev. Collins, Jr., is third from left in front row.*

called for the establishment of a West Coast Regional Advisory Board. This board was established and its first meeting was held September 8 in San Francisco. C. L. Dellums, president of the Alameda county branch, was elected chairman and Mrs. Dorothy Sumner of Fresno, as vice-chairman.

Under the regional plan it is provided that branches in the region with a membership of 1500 or more may elect a representative to serve on the regional board; while branches with smaller memberships share in the selection of two delegates-at-large from each state in the region.

Up to the present the following representatives from branches have been certified to the regional office: Mrs. Lottie G. Ellis, Yakima, Wash.; Mrs. Walter Derrick, Spokane, Wash.; Charles M. Stokes, Seattle, Wash.; Rev. Harry J. White, Tucson, Ariz.; Mrs. Louise A. Phillips, Phoenix, Ariz.; Frederick J. Frye, Reno, Nev.; Rev. W. H. Stevens, Las Vegas, Nev.; George L. Thomas and Mrs. Pearl Clow, Portland, Ore.; Mrs. Dorothy Sumner, Fresno, Calif.; Ernest McBride, Long Beach, Calif.; Abner L. Howell, Salt Lake City, Utah; C. L. Dellums, Oakland, Calif.; Dr. Buell Gallagher, Berkeley, Calif.; and Norman Houston, Los Angeles, Calif. Members of the national board of directors are also members of the regional advisory board for the West Coast.

Arthur G. Cleaver, president of the MARIN COUNTY branch, was appointed recently to a teaching position at the Tompkins school in Oakland. After finishing Prairie View in 1935, Mr. Cleaver took graduate work at Prairie View in 1938. He taught seven years prior to coming to California and he has been president of the Marin county branch since its organization two years ago.

Five new branches have been established on the Coast since March, as follows: McCloud, Indio, Blythe, California; Walla Walla, Washington; and Klamath Falls, Oregon. This brings the total to 61 for branches in the West Coast region.

A committee of the LAS VEGAS branch has appeared before the mayor and city commissioners protesting against the unwritten policy of segregating Negroes to the use of the Westside pool. Negroes are at present barred from the central pool.

The SACRAMENTO branch surpassed its quota of 500 set by the national office for 1947 and now has 509 members.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA: The WASHINGTON branch has requested the District board of education through superintendent of schools, Hobart M. Corning, to have all subject matter which stereotypes any racial or minority group immediately eliminated from the District schools.

This request stems directly from an article which appeared in the Washington *Post* of September 23 in which it was stated that Mrs. Jane Frost Hilder, guidance teacher for the fifth division, had explained that "teachers must establish this group feeling before they can begin to teach the children." A picture of *Little Black Sambo* was used to begin the education of first-grade children by their teacher, Mrs. Osceola C. Joiner.

In September the branch demanded an immediate investigation of Arthur B. McNerney, of the Brookland-Dahlgren Terrace Protective Association, for his pronouncements on racism and his incitation to violence. The *Post* reported Mr. McNerney as being in favor of all-white neighborhoods.

WORKERS *in the 1947 membership drive of the Des Moines, Iowa, branch. Not all drive workers are shown in picture. Three bottom faces, L to R, are those of Margaret Joseph, Rev. J. J. Hawkins, membership chairman, and Atty. Charles P. Howard.*

INDIANA: The ELKHART branch reports 119 members and a fight on jim-crowism in the southside schools. The Angelice Harmonizers Spiritual and Gospel Singers, of Fort Wayne; the Evening Light Gospel Singers, of South Bend; and the Star Light Women, of Fort Wayne; assisted the branch in its 1947 membership drive.

MISSOURI: The KANSAS CITY branch announces the appointment of a committee for the annual conference to be held here next June. Thirteen chairmen have so far been named, all of whom have accepted. They are as follows: W. R. Lillard, housing; Elmer C. Jackson, Sr., finance; Mrs. Ester Washington Williams, program; Percy H. Lee, entertainment; David Phelps, ushers; John H. Davis, convention facilities; Forest S. Smith, information; John Walls, transportation; Mrs. Annabelle McClendon, platform guests; Rev. Lawrence Scott, public relations; Virginia Oldham, registration.

NEW JERSEY: Frederick Martin, of Jersey City, a member of the board of directors of the NEW JERSEY STATE CONFERENCE OF BRANCHES, gave a detailed report to the annual meeting of the conference held at the Carver Center, Trenton, on September 27. He reported on the open sessions of the New Jersey State Convention, for the Revision of the Constitution held in New Brunswick during the summer months.

Mr. Martin served as chairman of a committee elected by the branch to attend the convention in an effort to get a no discrimination clause inserted in the new state constitution. Credit for success of this plan, according to Mr. Martin, should go to Oliver Randolph, delegate to the convention, Dr. Colthier, Governor Driscoll, and the Commission Against Discrimination.

Sanford Welcker, delegate from Long Branch, gave an account of the efforts of his branch to secure integration of Negro students in the public schools of that area. The conference sent a request to the national office asking that aid be given John Collier, who is now being held in the Newark Street jail, Newark, pending outcome of efforts in his behalf to prevent his extradition to South Carolina.

The following officers were re-elected for next year: Rev. Elias Hardge, president, Jersey City; Dr. U. S. Wiggins, vice-president, Camden; Mrs. Delia H. Martin, secretary, East Orange; and Rev. Charles S. Watkins, treasurer, Bayonne. Members of the board of directors are Frederick W. Martin, Jersey City; Mrs. Margaret Caution, Atlantic City; Jaspeth Miles, Bridgeton; Attorney J. Mercer Burrell, Newark; and Samuel A. Williams, East Orange, the last two being new members.

As a result of the fight of the LONG BRANCH unit of the NAACP to have the Liberty Street school integrated, the school board districted the school on September 12. Enrollment on opening day, September 8, had decreased 60 per cent in comparison with the enrollment last year. And two days after the opening, pupils were being transferred to the integrated Garfield and grammar schools.

NEW YORK: The executive committee of the BROOKLYN branch heard reports from chairmen of all standing committees at its last meeting. Gloster Current, director of branches, also talked to the group, explaining the highlights of the resolutions adopted by the 38th annual conference. Committee members present: Charles L. Kellar, chairman; James A.

Powers, president; T. R. Minton, treasurer; Dorothy E. Levy, financial secretary; Rev. Sandy F. Ray, R. M. Alexander, Thomas H. Fox, Herbert T. Miller, Henry A. Clark, Fred H. M. Turner, president emeritus; Alfred W. Rawlings; and Atty. Harry Levine.

OHIO: The annual membership campaign of the CLEVELAND branch opened on September 14 in the historic Antioch Baptist church, corner 89th and Cedar Avenue, with Thurgood Marshall as principal speaker. Atty. Clayborne George, campaign director, addressed the division leaders, captains, and workers. Mrs. Daisy E. Lampkin will assist in the campaign.

Among other speakers during the drive were Walter White, executive secretary; and Clarence Mitchell, labor secretary.

On September 24 the Cleveland branch, through its executive secretary, Charles P. Lucas, presented a statement on price controls to the mid-continent sub-committee of the Senate-House committee on the economic report.

The statement requested additional tax exemptions on incomes under $2400; the necessity for federal and state rent controls; and the necessity to do something about the overcrowded housing conditions among Negroes in Cleveland.

In making the request for tax reductions on incomes under $2400, the branch pointed out that most people make less than $2000 a year and that deductions cut heavily into the family budget at present high prices. Forced by restrictive covenants and swollen real estate values to live in communities largely populated by one group, the Negro has to pay abnormally high rents for depreciated property and he is forced to trade in areas where prices are much higher even than in the rest of the city.

RHODE ISLAND: Board meeting of the NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL CONFERENCE was held on August 17 at the home of President George C. Gordon of Springfield. Second annual financial campaign of the conference will be held September 1-November 10. This year a 1948 Chevrolet, several electric refrigerators, an electric washing machine, and a combination radio and victrola will be given away.

TEXAS: A youth council division of the WICHITA FALLS branch was organized August 20 under the direction of Misses W. M. Woods and M. J. Mangram. The council now has sixty-nine members, but has placed its goal at five hundred. Officers are M. J. Mangram, president; E. H. Baity, first vice-president; Mrs. La Maria Richie, secretary; B. J. Jackson, assistant secretary and treasurer; H. L. Mangrum, membership chairman; Sims Rentz, financial chairman; Adolphus Payne, entertainment; L. V. Woods and C. Lyles, publicity; B. J. Jackson, and Richard Byrd.

The October 2 *Newsletter* of the SOUTHWEST REGION of the NAACP reports the following interesting items:

HEARNE, TEXAS: Recently the Hearne school authorities threw up a makeshift school for Negroes to replace the one which burned down in 1945. This new school is constructed of prisoner-of-war barracks donated by the federal government, buildings which were sawed in half, dragged to the school grounds and patched together at a cost of, maybe, $40,000. The Hearne colored people took a look at this crazy-quilt building, took another look at the fine $3,500,000 school provided for whites, and then they got mad and began to call meetings of their branch.

The upshot of these meetings was that Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Jennings took their daughter, Doris Fay, 13, down to the "white" school and asked that she be registered. The white school refused to accept Doris Fay, so now W. J. Durham, NAACP resident counsel for the state of Texas, is entering suit on behalf of Mr. Jennings and all other Hearne Negro parents to compel the school board to cease discriminating.

DALLAS: The Dallas branch was first organized exactly thirty years ago, in 1917, and since that time has functioned continuously as a going concern. This spring Dallas did not reach its quota in the membership campaign, so now Dallas is embarking on a supplementary fall drive to celebrate a birthday, and also to keep square with its obligations.

EL PASO: Through the prompt action of the El Paso branch a young Negro girl, held in peonage for the last nine years, is free today and her captors, a white couple, are facing imprisonment.

The girl, Elizabeth Coker, 18, had been held in virtual slavery since she was nine years old, during which time she was compelled to sleep in the basement, which flooded whenever it rained, and in the chicken coop amidst drifting chicken feathers and the stench of manure.

Charles Miller, member of the branch, learned of the girl's plight from a county official; whereupon Rev. L. W. Butler, another branch member, made inquiry and arranged with some white friends for the rescue of the girl. After this had been successfully accomplished, the branch assumed charge, raised funds, and subsequently retained Attorney Hubert T. Faulk, who prepared the file on the case and turned it over to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The FBI is now prosecuting the couple, seeking conviction.

AUSTIN: The Atlanta Life Cup, which goes annually to the Texas branch accounted to have made the most outstanding contribution during the past year, has been awarded to the Austin branch.

SPEAKERS' BUREAU: A speakers' bureau consisting of 25 or 30 of the best speakers in this section of the country has been organized for the Southwest region.

TEXAS STATE CONFERENCE OF NAACP BRANCHES: Adopting without hesitation a $25,000 budget for the ensuing year as a weapon to fight jim crow in general and discrimination in the educational system of Texas in particular, as well as to support an accelerated state program and a portion of the expenses of the new Southwest Regional office, the Texas state conference of NAACP branches swung determinedly through its eleventh annual sessions at Denison, September 5-6.

One hundred and twenty-six delegates representing 52 of the 140 branches in the state, plus representatives from Arkansas and Oklahoma and the national office in New York, piloted the convention through a three-day meeting.

Among the resolutions adopted by the conference were the following: endorsement of federal and state fair employment practice legislation; admission of qualified Negro students to the University of Texas or any other institution of higher learning in Texas; repeal of the Taft-Hartley law; passage of national legislation to promote low-cost housing; support of the Farm Purchase and Operation loans; tax reduction; passage of anti-lynching legislation; and extension of appreciation to Heman Sweatt and his family for the former's courageous fight against educational segregation.

WEST VIRGINIA: In MONTGOMERY the branch is leading the fight against the ban on Negro use of the municipal swimming pool. Federal Judge Ben Moore has been asked to enjoin the city of Montgomery and the Montgomery Park Association from barring Negroes from using the municipal swimming pool. Paul Lawrence, the petitioner, contends that any project financed by taxes paid by all the citizens of a community, regardless of race, color, or creed, should be for the benefit of all.

Lawrence charges that he and about 600 other Negro residents of Montgomery are not allowed to purchase pool tickets, and that in addition the city has failed to provide any pool facilities that may be used by members of his race.

Defendants named are Mayor R. M. Holstine, all members of the council, F. B. Eberhart, president of the Montgomery Park Association, and Dorothy Hall, secretary.

JUNIOR COUNCIL, *Boston, Mass., NAACP organized May 2, 1947, by Lillian Williams.*

Bell

Book Reviews

THE GAY SEDUCER

Behold A Cry. By Alden Bland. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1947. 229pp. $2.50.

Spanning a very brief period (about 1917-1919), Alden Bland's *Behold a Cry* is one of the most cogently and succinctly written interpretations of life among Negroes published in several years. With the Chicago stockyard riots as backdrop, and the migrant southern Negro as milieu, it tells the story of Ed Tyler, sporty, well dressed, newcomer to Chicago at a time when local and national mores were out of joint. Though a well-intentioned family man, Ed's propensity for tying up with attractive women with "city" ways involves him and those associated with him in a moving drama of family life nicely balanced with Chicago's rapidly changing Southside of the period covered. Here is a novel which, though intent upon telling a good story, brings into full play elements of background and character.

Ed Tyler comes up from the South with full intention of sending for his wife Phom, and his two boys, Son and Dan, immediately. He becomes involved with Mamie, a rather glamorous, sensitive, go-getter, and for a year neglects to reassemble his family. He stoops to the level of bringing his wife and children to Mamie's apartment when he discovers that having his family with him is the only way he can avoid being drafted. Before long he finds that he must establish his own home in order to keep his family intact and allay the suspicions of Phom. He breaks with Mamie, but still later becomes intimate with Cleo, the wife of one of his co-workers and a friend from home, and eventually runs away with her, leaving his wife and children to shift for themselves.

Though the story is interesting both for its rapid movement and the interplay of social, economic, and racial factors, it is perhaps even more interesting for its depiction of character development. It may not be said that Ed becomes essentially different, but certainly he goes through a series of changes which strip him of his impulse to build solidly on early foundations of conventional morality, largely because of his flare for women and his desire to dress and show off his fine physical attractiveness. Though Mamie is the more glamorous of the two women who bring about the break with his wife, Cleo is the more subtle and makes a better foil for Ed. Phom, stolid, even tempered, good mother that she is, sees her family disintegrate, not without a fight and with no loss of her dignity. Other characters, particularly the boys and an older couple, Clara and Sam, are especially well drawn.

Behold a Cry is well written. Bland's attempt to show the conflict of unions with strike breakers, the subtle and underhanded methods of producers to subvert union activity, racial conflict, and the social changes of a great city—all potential areas of blatant propaganda—never intrudes upon his good style. The diction, sometimes delicately poetic yet vibrant, moves unhaltingly throughout the book. The one criticism that might be made is that his cruder characters sometimes talk above themselves. All in all, however, *Behold a Cry* is a good novel.

ARTHUR E. BURKE

COMBAT HISTORY

***Democracy's Negroes.* By Arthur Furr. Boston: The House of Edinboro, 1947. 315pp. Illustrated. $3.50.**

Democracy's Negroes, by Arthur F. Furr, according to the title page, is "a book of facts concerning the activities of Negroes in World War II". It is that and a great deal more, embracing as it does the story of the activities of Negroes in every branch of the military but also in a great variety of civilian activity in support of the war effort. Moreover, sometimes advantageous and sometimes quite the contrary, it presents accounts of the Negro's participation in earlier wars of the United States, as well as a considerable body of facual data on the development of such branches of the armed service as the Marine Corps and the Coast Guard from their incipiency.

The author frankly sets out to know the extent and value of the Negro's service to this country during war, and bases his account upon records of the War Department, including authenticated press releases. Particularly impressive, though a bit cumbersome, is his chapter on the Selective Service for World War II, in which he recounts the difficulties of enlistment of Negroes, the several steps taken to overcome these difficulties, and the eventual integration of Negroes, men and women, in every branch of the armed services. Following this are chapters on the U. S. Army, the U. S. Navy, the Marine Corps, the Air Corps, the Coast Guard, Heroes, Women in the War Effort, and Civilian Activity. These chapters are broken down into the various divisions of each branch of the military and of types of civilian service rendered. Frequently they are needlessly detailed, including as they do even addresses of scores of men in arms.

In spite of the piling up of facts and figures, Furr sometimes reaches satisfying dramatic heights. His accounts of the work and spirit of the port battalions, the amphibian truck companies, the Sea Bees, quietly narrated, are as intense dramatically as those about actual combat troops, the extremely risky and rigorous work of the marines, or the round-the-clock flights of airmen. Perhaps the most effective sketch in the book is that concerning the work of Negroes in the Engineer Corps on the Ledo Road. Here Furr manages fact and feeling skillfully without appeal to sentimentality or stretching of the blanket of race.

Regrettably, *Democracy's Negroes* is not particularly well written. As already suggested, it is sometimes needlessly detailed. For example (pages 104-116), there are long, solid paragraphs and lists of military units showing only the theatres in which these units served. However valuable such sections as

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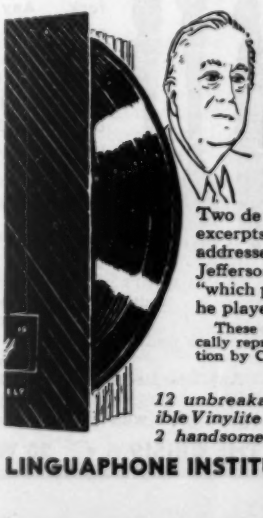
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this may be to the professional historian, they have no appeal for the layman and are almost certain to be omitted from the reading. On the other hand, some of the narrative paragraphs are so sketchy as to make for poor continuity. Perhaps the most serious fault in organization is inclusion of a biographical sketch on William Pickens as the last chapter in the book, for not until the last two sentences does the reader become aware that this sketch has any connection with the rest of the book, and that connection is very tenuous. Quite as disturbing are the many errors in grammar and the consistent misspelling of *principal*.

Despite its faults *Democracy's Negroes* is worth reading. It leaves no doubt as to the Negro's extremely valuable service to his country in World War II, and it leads the way to a more thoroughgoing and sensitive interpretation of that service.

ARTHUR E. BURKE

IN BRIEF

***The Hourglass (A Novel).* By David Alman. New York: Simon and Schuster, 1947. 208pp. $2.75.**

This novel has to do with the rape of a Negro woman in the southern town of Abbot by three white men and its effects upon them and the town. So far as the town is concerned it is just another incident and the white people see red only when the woman attempts to bring the men to justice. One of the ravishers is the frustrated young lawyer, Brian Keller, around whom much of the story revolves. What creates a crisis in Brian's life is not the rape, but his efforts to marry Lottie Gregg. The story is interesting less for its plot than for its realistic probing into southern life. Our author implies that white supremacy is a very shabby illusion.

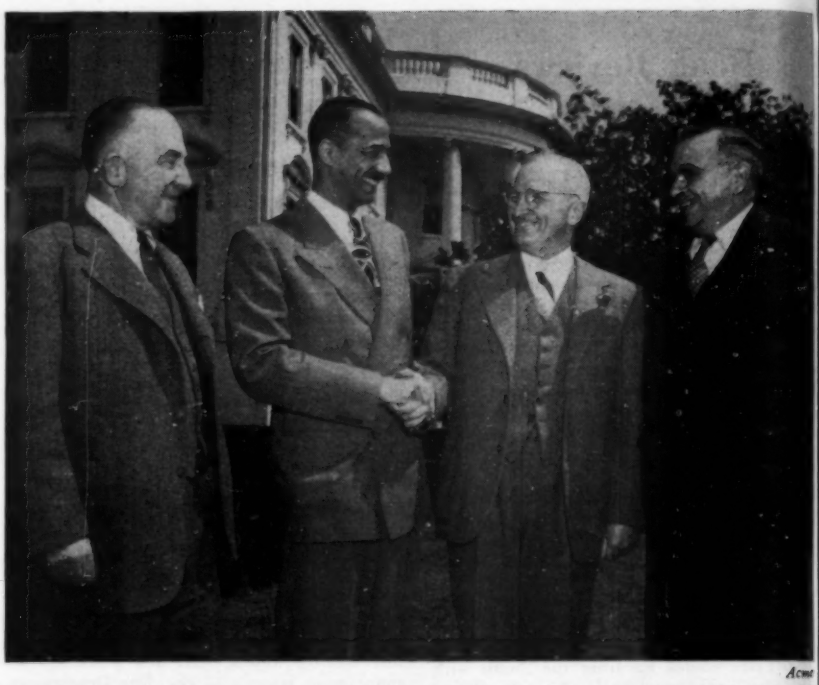
***Education For Negroes in Mississippi Since 1910.* By Charles H. Wilson, Sr., M.A. Boston: Meador Publishing Co., 1947. 641pp. Illustrated. $3.00.**

This is obviously a "vanity book," and though it purports to be a study of Negro education in Mississippi there is little in these pages of real value to a serious student of the subject. The material is badly organized and the writing abominable.

***Into the Main Stream:* A Survey of Best Practices in Race Relations in the South. By Charles S. Johnson and Associates. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1947. XIV+355pp. $3.50.**

The report of a two-year survey of the "best practices in race relations in the South" in such areas as citizenship, employment, education, housing, health, religion, etc. Though our author professes to find improvement, he glosses over many facts and trends which tend to weaken his case. Recent Negro advances in the South have been largly the result of pressure rather than a heightened decency on the part of southern whites.

J. W. I.



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TERRITORIAL GOVERNORS CALL ON PRESIDENT—*President Truman chats with three US territorial governors who called at the White House for a brief visits last April. Left to right: Ernest Gruening, governor of Alaska; William Hastie, governor of the Virgin Islands; President Truman; and Governor Jesus Pinero of Puerto Rico.*

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Notice of Nominations to the Board of Directors NAACP

The nominating committee met September 30 and named the following persons for membership on the national board of directors of the NAACP for terms expiring December 31, 1949:

HON. JANE BOLIN — *Present member of the Board. Justice of the Domestic Relations Court, New York City.*

MRS. LILLIE M. JACKSON—*President of the Baltimore, Md., branch. President of Maryland State Conference of Branches*

DR. E. W. TAGGART—*Present member of the Board. Dentist, Birmingham, Alabama.*

Nominated for three-year terms, ending December 31, 1950:

MRS. LILLIAN ALEXANDER — *Present member of the Board. Member New York City Board YWCA. National Council for Negro Women.*

THEODORE M. BERRY—*Present member of the Board. Lawyer. Former Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Cincinnati, Ohio. Former president Cincinnati branch NAACP.*

JUDAH CAHN—*Present member of the Board. Rabbi Temple Israel, New York City.*

ROSCOE DUNJEE—*Present member of the Board. Editor* BLACK DISPATCH, *Oklahoma City, Okla. President Oklahoma Conference NAACP branches.*

REV. JOHN HAYNES HOLMES—*Present member of the Board. Minister Community Church, New York City. President Unitarian Free Religious Association. President Unitarian Temperance Society. Director American Civil Liberties Union.*

CHARLES H. HOUSTON—*Present member of the Board, Washington, D. C. Vice-President Julius Rosenwald Fund. Vice-President American Council on Race Relations. Chairman National Legal Committee NAACP.*

HON. HERBERT LEHMAN—*Present member of the Board. Former Director UNRRA. Former Governor of New York State.*

ALFRED BAKER LEWIS—*Present member of the Board. Vice-President of Trade Union Health and Accident Association.*

DR. JAMES J. MCCLENDON — *Present member of the Board. Physician and surgeon, Detroit, Mich. Former president Detroit branch NAACP.*

T. V. MANGUM—*President North Carolina State Conference of NAACP Branches.*

EUGENE M. MARTIN—*Present member of the Board. Secretary-Treasurer Atlanta Life Insurance Company. President Alumni Association Atlanta University.*

HON. WAYNE MORSE—*United States Senator from Oregon.*

MRS. AMY SPINGARN—*Present member of the Board. Artist, sculptor. Wife of the late president of the NAACP, J. E. Spingarn.*

DR. J. M. TINSLEY—*Present member of the Board. Dentist, Richmond, Va. Civic and fraternity leader. President Virginia State Conference NAACP Branches.*

MRS. ELEANOR ROOSEVELT — *Present member of the Board.*

MRS. JESSIE VANN—*Publisher and treasurer of the* PITTSBURGH COURIER.

The constitution of the Association provides:

"Independent nominations may be made by petitions signed by not less than thirty members of the Association in good standing by filing the same with the Secretary not later than November 1 of each year."

New nominees for the Board in the above list are T. V. Magnum, Hon. Wayne Morse, and Mrs. Jessie Vann.

Chromosome 57

(*Continued from page 338*)

sources that from now on all children born of white parents will be Negro. This is the reason behind the mobilization of the country and the series of acts undertaken by the president and the "Committee of 18."

Frightened by the consequences of the reactions of the body to the radioactive elements of the A-Bomb, the president and his cabinet have thrown the country into a panic with their asinine "edicts" instead of having the courage to come forward to explain that the white race is a thing of the past.

This editor risks his life in telling this story, but he feels that it must be told for the sake of the truth and the sanity of the people of our country. He feels that Americans will accept the verdict of nature. A land such as ours, with its proud heritage, has nothing to fear from the Negro.

High Prices

(*Continued from page 341*),

clinging to a Southern diet) for which outrageous prices are paid. Housewives have reported Southside green beans at 22 cents per pound as loop supermarkets offered them at 2 pounds for 19 cents. The lowly cabbage has commanded 19½ cents per pound; mustard greens, almost regularly 2 pounds for 15 cents elsewhere, just as regularly bring 15 cents per pound in the Black Belt.

Violation of weights and measures and other sharp merchandising practices are other factors, inevitably frequent in a monopoly market, which add to the costs burden. Black market operations were extensive and violations of price ceilings voluminous in neighborhoods occupied by Negroes.

For the record, however, we want it understood that our recognition of black markets and violations of ceilings in connection with foods, as well as our earlier reference to rent violations, implies no lack of faith in the efficiency of price control. The housing and food markets in total Negro neighborhoods are simply the kind that present a tougher job for price control machinery. By the same token, control, even with its limitations, is more meaningful in these neighborhoods.

In summary, we believe it plain that the costs of living is running far ahead of wages and will rise higher in the months ahead. The Negro families we represent will go over the precipice first if the nation reaches the depression towards which we are headed. Negro wage-earners—as unemployed persons, the nation's "first fired"—will continue to pay higher prices than those paid by people who live in normal neighborhoods and who will continue to be employed—at least a while longer.

We speak as the vanguard of working families ought to speak. We see the danger because we are so close to it. We know from experience that it will take a worse toll among Negroes than among others.

We therefore urge that Congress roll back prices on basic consumer's commodities to the June of 1946 level and reinstitute real price control machinery across the board on food, clothing, and shelter.

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The following directory of some of the many colored lawyers in this country is carried in response to numerous inquiries from readers desiring to contact attorney outside their home towns. THE CRISIS maintains no legal bureau, and the N.A.A.C.P. handles only cases involving color discrimination, segregation or denial of citizen rights.

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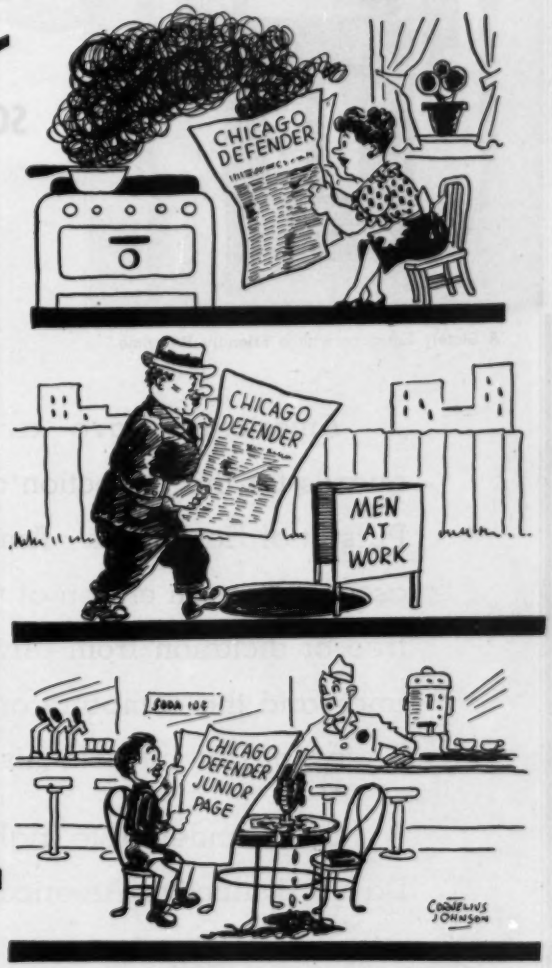

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